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U.S. DELEGATE TO SALT TALKS NOTES CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS

LD071208Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0910 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, 7 April--TASS correspondent Vladimir Reshetilov reports: The earliest possible conclusion of the new American-Soviet strategic arms limitation agreement corresponds to the interests of both the United States and the Soviet Union, said Paul Warnke, the head of the U.S. delegation to the Soviet-American Strategic Arms Limitation Talks in Geneva, in an interview with a TASS correspondent.

Considerable progress has been achieved at the talks, he said, and I hope that this beneficial process will continue over the coming months, which will permit the few outstanding problems to be solved and the agreement to be concluded. In Warnke's words, this has become possible thanks to the will and flexibility of both the contracting parties.

Concerning those opposed to the conclusion of the agreement in the United States, Paul Warnke expressed the view that there should be no linkage between some American officials' criticism of several aspects of Soviet foreign policy and the resolution of the problem of establishing control over nuclear arms.

The political climate should not impede the conclusion of a mutually acceptable strategic arms limitation agreement, noted the U.S. delegation head. The introduction of truly effective arms control would be an important step toward limiting the arms race, he emphasised, and would push back the threat of a thermonuclear war and help release the billions spent on armaments. In this, our position coincides fully with that of the Soviet Union, the American delegation head said.

On the whole, Paul Warnke pointed out, gains from the conclusion of this agreement would be made not only by our powers, but also by the whole of mankind.

Dwelling on the importance of concluding a complete and general nuclear test ban treaty--the draft of which the Soviet Union has submitted to the UN General Assembly, Warnke pointed out such an agreement would be a good supplement to the strategic arms limitation agreement. The banning of all nuclear arms tests he said, would secure additional guarantees that new weapons of mass destruction would not be developed. Moreover, it would provide a cover against the further dissemination of nuclear weapons, the U.S. delegation head emphasized.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

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[Weekly "International Observers' Roundtable" with Vikentiy Matveyev, IZVESTIYA political observer; Gennadiy Shishkin, chief foreign news editor of TASS; and Aleksandr Druzhinin, political observer of Central Television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Druzhinin] Hello, comrades! It is not often that we have a week so rich in international events of paramount importance as we had last week. And these events, as the worldpress assesses them, testify to the Soviet Union's latest efforts aimed at detente and strengthening peace and cooperation among peoples.

The forthcoming visit of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, to the FRG was announced recently. Judging from the reaction of the West German press and from commentaries in the press of other countries, broad public circles and many political figures expect this visit by the Soviet leader to provide fresh incentive for the development of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the FRG and a rapprochement of the positions of these two countries on a number of important issues. Hopes for a further strengthening and development of the positive processes which now exist on the Continent of Europe are being linked with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's visit.

Last week the people of the Soviet Union and Finland widely marked the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Aid. Life has already convincingly shown that this treaty serves as a firm basis for Soviet-Finnish relations in the political, economic, trade and other fields. The Soviet Union and the Finnish Republic spoke of their determination to continue to follow undeviatingly the path of development of mutually advantageous, friendly relations between the two countries, in accordance with the obligations and points laid down in the treaty.

But the most important event--an event which evoked very great international response--was undoubtedly Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's tour of Siberia and the Far East.

Brezhnev Far East Tour

[Shishkin] Attention is drawn to the fact that the international reaction to Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's tour, gives great attention to the Soviet Union's concern for the further economic upsurge of Siberia and the Far East, which was demonstrated during the trip. It is pointed out, and this was stressed by UPI, that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's trip constitutes the basis of the party's nationwide campaign for the rational use of energy resources and expansion of production.

Thus, in the opinion of the Stockholm DAGENS NYHETER, the main purpose of Brezhnev's tour of Siberia was to achieve an acceleration in production and industrial construction. Western diplomats, the paper writes, consider it highly significant that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev is personally spending these days in the eastern regions of the country. As one of them said, Brezhnev's trip manifestly shows that they have attacked the job energetically.

Capitalism's Economic Crisis

Against the background of the indisputable economic achievements of our country, which now produces 20 percent of world industrial production, the pessimistic appraisals by international commentators of the state of the capitalist economy stands out particularly clearly. A gloomy summit is what the British DAILY TELEGRAPH called the conference of heads of state and government of the nine Common Market countries, which was held yesterday and the day before in Copenhagen, the Danish capital. At the center of the discussions were the consequences of the socioeconomic upheaval in the capitalist system, the most profound in 40 years--or, as the French LE FIGARO put it, how to resist the protracted economic crisis which has stricken the West.

All the suggested prescriptions have proved to be inefective. The preliminary consultations in Rambouillet between French President Giscard d'Estaing and West German Chancellor Schmidt have not helped, either. In an atmosphere of deteriorating international situation and a sharpening of competition on the world markets, the French LES ECHOS concluded, the saying "God helps those who help themselves" has never been truer. One should not argue with popular wisdom, but the state of capitalism is now such that God himself has forgotten about it and it is powerless to help itself.

[Matveyev] Obviously, Gennadiy Arkadiyevich, it is not now simply a matter of economic affairs or the economic situation but of very complex politics, higher politics. In July, as is known, the latest--the fourth in recent years--meetings of leaders of some of the biggest capitalist countries will be held in Bonn. Intensive preparations for this meeting are now underway, but if, despite the widely broadcast declarations which accompanied them, the three previous meetings did not yield the desired results, then, judging from what you have just said, Gennaidy Arkadiyevich, this next meeting will not promise the capitalist leaders any comfort for the time being.

Disarmament Status

[Shishkin] The world public has also devoted a great deal of attention to the international aspects of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's trip. Most Western observers stress that the international political significance of this trip is closely linked with the current state of the policy of detente and Soviet-U.S. relations. The Yugoslav paper VJESNIK notes that this trip is of a broad international nature. It called Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech in Vladivostok an important international speech, which reminded the United States of the spirit of Vladivostok, which certain U.S. figures have started to forget.

In choosing Vladivostok as the last port of call on his trip, the West German SUDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG writes, Brezhnev was aiming at such a major foreign policy problem as agreement on SALT-II, on whose basic features he came to an understanding back in 1974 with President Ford. Time waits for no man, the newspaper stresses. The agreement must not be allowed to slip away.

[Druzhinin] Indeed, foreign observers are now devoting special attention to the sections of Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech in Vladivostok in which, with the utmost clarity, he lays down the Soviet Union's stand on the subject of restraining and ending the arms race, and in particular its stand at the Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

Nearly 3.5 years have elpased since the Soviet-U.S. summit was held in Vladivostok, which led to an understanding on the conclusion between the Soviet Union and the United States of a long-term agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation.

Even then, the sides came to the conclusion that it would be possible to complete the formulation of the agrement the following year, 1975.

Nevertheless, the final conclusion of this work is being dragged out. What is the reason for this? The fact is that the U.S. Government is clearly showing indecision and inconsistency and is turning to the circles which were against the agreement from the very start and are doing everything to wreck it, leaving them free for an uncontrolled nuclear arms race.

Let us turn to the positions of the forces which, being closely linked with the Pentagon and the vast military-industrial arms production machine, are strenuously undermining a new Soviet-U.S. strategic arms limitation agreement. Let us review their so-called arguments. Their main argument consists of the fact that the Soviet Union is, they say, building up the arms race, deliberately violating the balance of forces to its advantage; and this being so, the Washington hawks claim, a new agreement would only consolidate certain advantages for the Soviet Union to the detriment of the interests of the United States.

Well, what can be said about this? First, these fantasies are being rejected by authoritative sources in the United States itself. I have in front of me the annual report of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, which was published just a few days ago, last week. It says clearly, "the Soviet Union and the United States possess powerful strategic nuclear forces, and although the composition of these forces is of a different structure, they are now basically equivalent." The purpose of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks consists of promoting a balanced limitation, subject to reliable control, of the strategic nuclear arms arsenals at the disposal of the United States and the Soviet Union, the report points out. This is undoubtedly a good point.

[Matveyev] This point was also made by Paul Warnke, the head of the U.S. delegation at these talks, in one of his latest interviews. He refuted the allegation that the talks had become deadlocked. He stressed that, on the contrary, both sides in Geneva are acting with the most serious intentions and are meeting in a businesslike atmosphere permeated with the realization of their responsibility.

If the talks on this problem should fail, the two countries will be left with no other way out than to continue to increase their nuclear arsenals, the U.S. spokesman stated. Of course, it is not right to talk of a deadlock at the talks: The talks are continuing. But it is also clear that there are still grave difficulties which must be overcome by joint efforts. Unfortunately, the U.S. side is not yet making these efforts because of the factors about which you have just been talking.

[Druzhinin] But, Vikentiy Aleksandrovich, to aggravate these difficulties plays right into the hands of the opponents of the limitation of the strategic arms race. Take, for example, the recent statement by General Haig, supreme commander of the NATO armed forces in Western Europe. The general continues to speak repeatedly about the increasingly extensive spread of Soviet might around the world, about the fact that this might is becoming global and so forth. The days are gone when the United States, by virtue of its superiority, could expect to interfere in local crisis situations and emerge from them with credit, the general complains, and he demands a further increase in the arms race within the framework of NATO and the modernization of the military arsenals of the bloc members.

Understandably, such nostalgia for the times when the United States could act from a position of strength and impose its will on others is a bad adviser at the negotiations table. Speaking in Vladivostok, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev stated once again that the Soviet Union decisively rejects any attempts to impose upon it unacceptable conditions for an agreement.

We do not seek an agreement that would give us any advantages at the expense of the other side. But we expect exactly the same approach from the other side. There can be no other solution, the Soviet leader stressed.

This situation, which has developed in the strategic offensive arms limitation talks, demonstrates clearly the gap between the statements in favor of disarmament, which are frequently made in the West, and in the United States in particular, and the Western politicians' actual deeds. In the final analysis it is not by words but by deeds that people are judged, and in this respect the question of neutron weapons is very significant.

Neutron Bomb Decision

[Shishkin] Yes indeed. Throughout the past week Washington has continued to confuse matters over this burning question, which is worrying millions of people throughout the world. On Monday the New York TIMES loudly reported that President Carter has allegedly decided at the last moment to drop the plan to produce the neutron bomb and that this decision was in no small degree promoted by his religious outlook and Christian feelings. But the very next day the White House was obliged to state that such a decision had not been made and that the question of the neutron bomb remained open. On Friday, it was announced that the decision had been deferred and that it depended on the conduct of the Soviet Union.

At the same time a real propaganda campaign was launched in both the U.S. and West European press to influence public opinion with the aim of proving that white is black and vice versa. They started to portray the neutron bomb as just about the most humane and inoffensive type of weapon. U.S. observers Evans and Novak, known for their links with the Pentagon, accused the White House of lack of courage. The agonizing indecision, they wrote, which distinguishes the government position on neutron weapons is a typical example of how the leadership of a superpower shies away from political maneuvers affecting the man in the street.

[Druzhinin] The irritation of these gentlemen and their bosses is quite understandable. It is not just the man in the street but all thinking and sensible people on earth and mass political and public organizations which are firmly and consistently saying no to neutron weapons. Even the New York TIMES was obliged to admit that the protests evoked by the neutron bomb have left deep traces in the framework of the Atlantic alliance, sowing grave doubts in the European capitals.

[Shishkin] Alongside this, in the U.S. capital they continue to entertain the hope that, by blackmailing the Soviet Union with the neutron bomb, the United States will succeed in gaining unilateral concessions from it during the arms limitation talks. This hope, as we all know perfectly well, is vain, as was stressed very decisively once again in Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech to the sailors of the Soviet Pacific Fleet.

Nevertheless, the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR says: They, that is the supporters of the neutron bomb, would like NATO to use it to barter with the Soviet Union, for example, at the Vienna talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms, and to persuade public opinion in their countries to approve the deployment of this weapon in the event that nothing comes of that trade.

As you can see, the West's tactics are cynically simple: to confront the Soviet Union with conditions which the West knows are unacceptable and, when they are rejected, to force the people of its own countries to condone a new round in the arms race on the pretext of lack of compliance from the Soviet Union.

Horn of Africa

[Druzhinin] While talking about certain Western politicians' maneuvers over the problem of limiting the arms race, one cannot fail to note the appearance of a tendency to link somehow progress at the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks, and the whole fate of an agreement on that question, to other political problems to exert pressure on the Soviet Union. Probably the clearest example of this is the attempt to link the solution of the problem of limiting strategic arms to the problem in one of the most uneasy parts of the world, the Horn of Africa. I think it would now be relevant for us to dwell on the position in that region and to have a look at what is happening there.

[Matveyev] The imperialist circles cannot rest after the collapse of their plans to provoke and protract the conflict which Somalis unleashed against neighboring Ethiopia in an attempt to tear away a considerable part of its territory, the Ogaden Province. As a result of the skillful and decisive actions of the Ethiopian Armed Forces and the support given it by the socialist countries in repulsing the aggression, the forces which invaded Ethiopia were driven out. The country's territorial integrity was restored. This is of great significance for the whole of Africa. The inviolability of state borders should promote peace and calm throughout the continent.

But what is happening? The circles which, at first quietly and then increasingly openly, banked on promoting bloodshed in the Horn of Africa, are now continuing a campaign in the Western mass media to further incite the situation in that region. Certain Western figures who ought to be taking a more responsible position are also doing their bit. None of these Western figures, of course, can bring himself to publicly support the violation of the existing borders in Africa. So what is the cause of dissatisfaction for the initiators of such a campaign?

Quite recently they were alleging that the Ethiopian Armed Forces would not halt but would cross the Somali border. This was said despite the repeated statements by the Ethiopian Government that it sought one thing alone: to clear its own territory of invaders and nothing more. And this is how things are in practice. The Ethiopian Armed Forces, having driven out the invading forces, halted at the borders with Somalia. One might think the evil-wishers would fall silent, but no. These same circles in the United States and in certain other NATO countries have now begun to allege that the support given by the socialist states to Ethiopia, at the request of its government, is creating some sort of dangerous precedent for other parts of the African Continent, primarily for the south of Africa.

Of course, the authors of such allegations can offer nothing apart from speculations and vague hypotheses. Nevertheless, the very fact of the unleashing of such a campaign cannot fail to have a negative influence on the international situation, including the state of affairs in the Horn of Africa.

[Druzhinin] The joint Soviet-Ethiopian communique published on 7 April in connection with recent talks in Moscow with Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provosional Military Administrative Council and of the Council of Ministers of Ethiopia, expresses concern about these attempts by international reaction to slow down the process of normalizing relations and to preserve a hotbed of tension in that region.

The communique points out that our country attributes great significance to the Ethiopian people's successes in implementing progressive changes, its victories over the forces of internal and external reaction and the anti-imperialist position of the new Ethiopia in international affairs.

[Matveyev] The military actions forced on Ethiopia caused great damage to the country's economy. As a result of this conflict over 1 million Ethiopians were forced to leave their homes. The material damage caused to Ethiopia by this war amounts to $500 million.

Meanwhile, off the coast of the Horn of Africa, naval vessels of the United States, Britain and France recently began a series of maneuvers, as a result of which even the reed boat of Thor Heyerdahl and his comrades, which happened to be in the area of maneuvers, was almost lost and had to be destroyed. This was done by Heyerdahl as a protest against such militarist activity in peaceful waters.

That is only one example. The Western bourgeois press writes that these naval maneuvers constitute an open demonstration of force against Ethiopia. During the times of the colonial empires such demonstrations were called gunboat diplomacy. The era of colonialism has passed; however, the gunboats of some former colonial parent states are evidently still puffing smoke and poisoning the pure air.

A few days ago a representative of the U.S. State Department had talks in the Somali capital. Washington announced that the possible delivery of so-called defensive weapons to Somalia was discussed at the talks. But it is known that, on the eve of the Somali troops' incursion into Ethiopia, Washington promised Somalia precisely such weapons--defensive ones. The sinister role played by these promises, if one may call them that, is now clear to all. They constituted a direct incitement to the circles which allowed themselves to be carried away by militant nationalistic feelings--and with such lamentable results for their own country and for its people.

Of course, one should look forward and not back. The national interests of Somalia and its people, when correctly understood and not turned upside down, dictate a sensible and realistic policy for that country, and not an adventuristic line, which plays up to the forces of imperialist reaction.

The fact, however remains: The Somalia Government still has not made a statement mentioning the renunciation of territorial claims on its neighboring countries. On the contrary, Mogadiscio is again talking about support for the so-called Western Somali Liberation Front, that is, it is resorting to the steps which caused the bloodshed between Somalia and Ethiopia, through no fault of Ethiopia.

The lack of a solution of the situation in that part of Africa is not, of course, in the interests of any country located there. The armed adventure against Ethiopia has cost the Somali people very dearly. As for Ethiopia, its people and the leaders of that country are facing great and complicated tasks: the implementation of democratic transformations, the continuation of the revolution which has begun and the strengthening of the new system on the ruins of the regime, which held the country in the fetters of the deprivation of rights, backwardness and poverty. The new Ethiopia both wants and needs stable peace and normal, good relations with all the neighboring countries, including Somalia. Such a development of relations depends primarily on the position taken by Somalia and its government.

Carter Tour

It is interesting that during his recent stay in Nigeria, President Carter tried to discuss with Nigeria's leaders the question of so-called foreign interference in the affairs of the Horn of Africa. However, he was told bluntly by the Nigerian side that the affairs of the countries of the Horn of Africa fall within these countries' competence.

[Shiskin] Yes, this 7-day trip by the U.S. President ended at the begining of the week. He visited both Latin America and Africa. Washington attached particular significance to the African part of the trip. First, this was the first visit by a U.S. President to the Continent of Africa in the entire history of the United States. Second, the United States tried, at the very highest level, to convince the countries of Africa that it is seriously conducting a so-called new African policy, around which a noisy propaganda campaign has been raised in the United States. However, this attempt failed; the U.S. President simply brought nothing new in his diplomatic luggage.

The newspaper NEW NIGERIAN, which is close to the Nigerian Government, summed it up thus: When the White House or the State Department shows interest in Africa, they do it, as before, mainly because they want to protect their capital investments and strive to preserve the white minority regimes in the south of the continent. The fairness of this conclusion can be judged by the fact that, during the talks on the future of the racist regimes, President Carter restricted himself merely to general reasoning, made no concrete proposals and in no way made it clear when the United States would finally begin to carry out the UN decisions on the application of economic sanctions against the Republic of South Africa or on the discontinuation of arms supplies to the racist regimes.

China's Anti-Sovietism

[Druzhinin] The events on which we have dwelt in our conversation provide a clear idea of the maneuvers by the forces which are interested in the arms race and the exacerbation of an atmosphere of fear and hostility. It is by no means a secret that such forces are not only to the west but also to the east of our borders. It is impossible to ignore the new wave of anti-Sovietism which is now rising precisely in the east, in Peking.

In our roundtable conversations we have more than once examined the internal situation in China and its foreign policy. Each day brings new facts which are indicative of the Peking leaders' obsession with anti-Soviet schemes, for which the Chinese propagandists and diplomacy appeal to the forces of extreme imperialist reaction in an attempt to form an alliance with these forces against our country and against the other socialist countries. I believe it is also worthwhile to dwell briefly on how the West and Japan--which is now a main object of such conditioning by Peking--are responding to such appeals.

[Matveyev] Of course, the forces of extreme reaction in the West are encouraging Peking's anti-Soviet course in every way. However, they are in no hurry to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for the Chinese leaders. Imperialism would like China to serve as its strike weapon and not the other way around.

As for the realistically minded bourgeois politicians in the West and Japan, they are warning increasingly insistently and loudly against following in the wake of Peking's anti-Soviet course. The influential Singapore newspaper the NEW STRAITS TIMES wrote on 4 April that no special significance should be attached to Peking's fine words about ASEAN, the alliance in Southeast Asia, since the anti-Soviet orientation of the hopes which Peking places on that regional alliance is obvious.

This is a significant statement, considering the efforts being made by Peking to strengthen the sphere of its influence in the Southeast Asian countries to be on the alert against the Soviet Union and also against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, with which--although it is not stated directly, but it was admitted by Hua Kuo-feng a few days ago--China has serious unresolved quarrels, including some on territorial questions, not to mention the support Peking has rendered and is rendering to Kampuchea in its conflict with Vietnam.

A Japanese Socialist Party delegation led by Asukata was recently received in Peking and, as usual, gross anti-Soviet appeals were again addressed to it. However, in its response the Japanese delegation indicated unambiguously that Japan is striving for normal relations with all countries.

Another example: Influential political circles in Bonn condemned the recent behavior in Peking of one of those foreign guests--CSU member and Bundestag Deputy Zimmerman. Speaking in Shanghai and obviously wishing to play up to his hosts, this representative of Strauss' party stated his wish to find in the person of China a partner in the confrontation with the Soviet Union. Another Bundestag deputy, Social Democrat Voight, condemned this speech and stated that it harms FRG interests, since the FRG has no rational political alternative to the continuation of detente and compromises with the Soviet Union.

Voight recalled that those who, like Zimmerman, proclaim that the FRG and China have a common military-political character directed against the USSR need not be surprised if such a policy reminds one of Nazi Germany's policy before World War II. Therefore, the deputy said, we insist on a policy of peace and detente, compromise and cooperation with Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

What kind of conclusion can be drawn from these facts? Only one: Peking's ardent anti-Soviet course is a road on which the initiators of this course will not cover themselves with laurels. Such a course is fraught both with serious miscalculations and serious pitfalls for its authors.

[Druzhinin] On that permit me to conclude our transmission. Thank you for your attention.

UNITED STATES

CARTER LINKS NEUTRON BOMB DECISION TO SOVIET DEFENSE PLANS

LD081120Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1040 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, 8 April--U.S. President J. Carter has announced that he has decided to "postpone production" of neutron weapons. "A final decision on the use of enhanced radiation in our modernized tactical weapons will be made later," a presidential statement issued by the White House stresses.

However, judging by the content of J. Carter's statement, the present decision by no means indicates giving up preparations for production and development of neutron weapons. The President announced that he had given "a directive to the Defense Department to proceed with modernization of the nuclear warhead for the Lance missile and of the eight-inch weapons system," making allowance for later use of neutron weapons in them. "Together with our allies," he said, "we shall continue to take steps to modernize and strengthen our military potential, both nuclear and non-nuclear."

At the same time the President, with the clear aim of gaining concessions from the Soviet Union on other issues not relevant to the matter, tried to tie the adoption of a final decision on giving up U.S. production of neutron weapons to measures to strengthen the Soviet Union's defense capability which have no connection with neutron weapons. Meanwhile J. Carter did not say a word about the USSR's clear proposal to reach mutual agreement not to produce, stockpile or develop neutron weapons anywhere.

It is to be noted that, giving an explanation on the same day, an official White House spokesman singled out his instructions to the Pentagon to modernize the warheads for the rockets and artillery shells as a basic element in the President's decision. The spokesman pointed out that this would make it possible to deploy the neutron weapons later "with a minimal loss of time." He said that the process of modernizing the warheads would take 1.5 - 2 years.

It emerges from the explanations of the White House spokesman that one of the main reasons for the decision to postpone the manufacture of the neutron weapons is the desire of the U.S. Government to create the most favorable atmosphere in public opinion, to deploy the neutron weapons in Western Europe at a later date and to cut short the powerful wave of protests against the creation of these weapons which increase the threat of a nuclear war.

Protests Influence Decision

LD072244Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2030 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Correspondent Yuriy Soltan report from Washington]

[Text] Over the past week rumors have been circulating in Washington that President Carter intended to reject completely the neutron weapon. These rumors have not been confirmed, and the President has decided to refrain only temporarily from mass production of neutron warheads, retaining the right to review this decision at any moment depending on the circumstances. The protests against production of the neutron bomb both within the United States and abroad have, to be sure, had a substantial influence on the White House position, but the question of the neutron bomb has by no means been removed from the agenda.

In the first place, this is too much of a tasty morsel for the military monopolies, since multi-billion dollar orders are at stake here. And secondly, the American military and conservatives in Congress would like to use the neutron bomb as a bargaining chip in the disarmament talks with the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Pact countries to gain one-sided military advantages for the United States.

The development of experimental models of the neutron warheads and the technology for their mass production is to go on as before at Rockwell International's works under the supervision of the U.S. Energy Department. And, as the U.S. State Department has reported, Washington's consultations with NATO countries on the possible use of the neutron weapon in the future will continue. The possibility has not been excluded that, at the coming NATO Council session in Washington at the end of May, the question of the production and deployment of neutron warheads in Western Europe might possibly be resolved positively if the U.S. allies make a formal request to Washington to this effect.

The American communists' newspaper DAILY WORLD appeals to the American people not to relax their vigilance. The struggle against the neutron bomb goes on.

U.S. Neutron Opponents

LD081417V Moscow TASS in English 1358 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 8, TASS--President Carter's decision to defer production of neutron weapons does not mean giving up the idea of producing the most abominable weapon in mankind's history, John Conyers, member of the House of Representatives, said at a press conference. Instead of clearly denouncing this horrible means of mass destruction of humans, the President yielded to the pressure of certain political groupings and decided on a compromise in this matter, thus bringing into it a dangerous element of uncertainty.

The ambiguous stand assumed by the White House, the congressman said, makes it possible to return any time to the question of production of neutron weapons which, in the meantime, will be perfected by the Pentagon. I am strongly against this weapon and I shall continue an active campaign for its complete banning. It is high time the arms race were stopped. It is time to heed the voice of reason and to stop this insanity, John Conyers stressed in conclusion.

Representative of the Centre for Defence Information, S. Leader, said that when making the decision, the President could not but take into consideration the fact that the population of NATO member countries, allies of the United States, came out resolutely against deployment of neutron weapons in their lands. Besides that, deployment of this new type of nuclear weapons would cause a considerable damage to the overall atmosphere at the talks on strategic offensive arms limitation held by the USSR and the USA and would place additional obstacles on the road to their successful conclusion, he said.

If we wish to avoid a nuclear war, it is necessary to give up the idea of producing the neutron bomb, said Herbert Scoville, secretary of the Arms Control Association. What is the most dangerous bout it is that it lowers the "ceiling" for the use of nuclear weapons in the crisis situations and considerably increase the risk of an outbreak of a thermo-nuclear conflict. The arguments of the supporters of this barbarous weapon hold no water, Herbert Scoville said. First, it cannot be described as a "defensive" weapon since in reality the neutron bomb is an offensive weapon that can destroy personnel, while material values remains intact and can be seized later.

Second, the thesis about using neutron weapons as a "trump card" for exerting pressure at the talks with the USSR sounds doubtful, too. It is high time we understood that we cannot talk with the Russians from the position of strength and cannot dictate our will to them. Such was the case, for instance, with the creation in the United States of missiles with multiple warheads, which we attempted to use as our "trump card." The Russians, finally, created a similar weapon and our positions from the viewpoint of the interests of national security only worsened in the end.

Deviation of Reason

LD081510Y Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Yuriy Shalygin commentary]

[Text] The White House could not ignore the countless protests around the world against the neutron bomb. The world public has shown, too, categorically during the past few months its indignation over the plans to produce this new weapon of mass destruction and over the intention to deploy it in densely populated Western Europe. The plans were justly regarded as a deviation of human reason. Indeed, it is simply impossible to tally pompous declarations from Washington in defense of human rights with intentions made at the same time to start making a barbarous weapon that encroaches on the primary human right, the right to live. The neutron conveyor belt has not been launched yet, but the intention to start it remains. It is reported that the American President has reserved the right to return to the issue at any moment. He has ordered the Pentagon to keep modernizing warheads for Lance missiles and for 8-inch artillery shells. But these are planned to become carriers of the lethal neutron charges.

There is one particular point in all these developments. They would like to turn the neutron bomb into a bargaining point. Such repeated declarations have come lately from the hawks in the Capitol and in NATO circles. The neutron weapon is linked with other issues that have no bearing on it. By manipulating with the neutron weapon as with a trump card they would like to put pressure on the Soviet Union. They want to find out, according to the New York TIMES, whether any deal with Moscow is possible. Such manipulations are a display of some pathological deviation of reason, I think: first of all, because the selfish bargaining point concerns human destinies, which are threatened by the nuclear bomb; and secondly, because in this way an attempt is made to dodge the concrete and clear Soviet proposals about mutual efforts to stop the arms race. The Soviet Union has advanced several scores of such clear-cut proposals. One proposal to the West is to agree about mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapon. In the UN Disarmament Committee, together with other socialist countries, the Soviet Union has tabled a draft international convention on this score. Adoption of the convention would no doubt prevent another round in the arms race to which the apostles of the neutron bomb are pushing the world. The energy of the atom must serve only peaceful purposes. This country stands for this. The USSR intends pressing for advances in the relaxation of military tensions, for a transition to real disarmament. This is our firm policy and we shall be following it steadily, stressed the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev, in his speech in Vladivostok on Friday.

AMERICANS CONCERNED ABOUT COURSE OF U.S.-USSR RELATIONS

LD092152Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Correspondent Yuriy Soltan report from Washington]

[Excerpt] Comrade Brezhnev's speech is attentively studied in Washington's official circles prominent newspaper and television observers comment on it--rank and file Americans talk about it.

Many people here are anxious about the question: What direction will the development of the Soviet-American relations take? President Carter's administration, which had promised to adhere to the course of detente, made too few concrete steps in this direction. Americans are particularly concerned about the administration's wavering over the question of concluding an agreement with the Soviet Union on the limitation of the strategic offensive arms. Despite the furious anti-Soviet campaign being waged here, many Americans retain the conviction that the path to peace lies through a consolidation of Soviet-American relations.

CYRUS VANCE TO VISIT MOSCOW IN APRIL FOR SALT DISCUSSION

LD071408Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1356 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, 7 April--It has been agreed that U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance will visit Moscow in the second half of April. Plans call for discussion of a number of problems of mutual interest to the USSR and United States, including those connected with the preparation of an agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive weapons.

NATO STATUS PROMPTS DECISION ON TURKISH ARMS EMBARGO

LD071213Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "The Zigzags of American Diplomacy"]

[Text] Washington, 4 April--The United States is striving with all its might to maintain its influence in Turkey and to keep that country in the NATO orbit. As the U.S. State Department has announced, President J. Carter has decided to try to persuade Congress to lift the embargo on the supply of American arms to Ankara, which was introduced after the Cyprus conflict in 1974. Moreover, the White House intends to propose to the legislators a new program for military supplies to Turkey worth $225 million.

Explaining the President's decision, the State Department indicated that it is directed toward "strengthening bilateral relations with Turkey and NATO positions in the Eastern Mediterranean."

The lifting of the embargo on supplying American weapons to Turkey formerly depended on a settlement of the Cyprus problem. As is well known, events in Cyprus created an exceptionally difficult situation for Washington, putting it "between the devil and the deep blue sea." The sides in conflict--Turkey and Greece--are not only both NATO members, but are also important for the United States because there are military bases located on their territory. All these years Washington has been trying to settle the contradiction between Athens and Ankara, to remove the Cyprus conflict from under the aegis of the United Nations, and to turn it into a "purely NATO" matter.

The transatlantic mediators were particularly urged on by Ankara's decision in the summer of 1975 to close U.S. military bases as a protest against the embargo on arms supplies. When the Turkish Government, headed by B. Ecevit, made a public statement on its intention to review the country's membership in NATO and to conduct a more independent foreign policy course, W. Christopher, deputy secretary of state, was immediately sent to Ankara. As the press notes, the result of the talks in Ankara was the present turnabout in the White House position.

The administration's tactics consist at present in gaining time and postponing Turkey's "fatal step" with promises of generous military help. As for Greece, which is keeping a sharp eye on Washington's maneuvers, to "pacify" it, as the State Department reports, President J. Carter has decided to ask Congress to allocate $140 million for the purchase by Athens of Americans arms.

U.S. OFFICIALS ADMIT ISRAEL VIOLATED WEAPONS AGREEMENT

LD081425Y Moscow TASS in English 1245 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 8, TASS--The Israeli Airforce used cluster bombs received from the USA in bombing populated localities of Lebanon and Palestinian refugee camps in the course of the aggression in the south of Lebanon. A statement to this effect was made here on Friday by U.S. Congressman Paul McCloskey (Republican of California state). McCloskey said that he had received the information through "unimpeachable sources," the use of the bombs caused "widespread loss of life", he stressed. The fact of Israel's use of American-made cluster bombs in Lebanon, as the newspaper New York TIMES reported today, is also recognized by officials of the U.S. administration. The fact that Tel Aviv has violated the agreement with the USA concluded in 1952, under which Israel has the right to use U.S.-made weapons only "for maintaining internal security and for defence", but not for acts of aggression against other states, is mentioned in the letter from U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance to Speaker of the House of Representatives of U.S. Congress Thomas O'Neill.

According to the report of the ASSOCIATED PRESS agency, the Washington administration does not intend to take any action against Israel, because it has given assurances that it will withdraw its forces from south Lebanon and therefore the question of the cluster bombs must be considered closed.

Washington's tolerance towards the violation by Israel of its contractual commitments as regards the use of American made weapons may, in the opinion of observers, only encourage the aggressor. It gives Israel a green light to fresh acts of aggression against the neighbour Arab countries.

Condemnation Linked to Oil

LD091122Y Moscow in English to North America 2330 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] On Wednesday the United States secretary of state notified Congress that Israel may have violated the law by using American weapons in its invasion of Lebanon. We bring you a commentary by observer Pavel Kuznetsov:

Israel is accused of violating the 1952 mutual defense agreement between the United States and Israel. It limits use of American weapons to maintaining internal security, the so-called legitimate self-defense, and as part of a United Nations action. According to the ASSOCIATED PRESS, Cyrus Vance said he did not recommend to President Carter any further action on Israel's violation of that law.

Cyrus Vance's statement is believed to mean that a violation of this agreement has occurred. Israel used American weapons in 1956 1967 and 1973 and keeps using them now to control the occupied Arab lands it has seized in those wars. According to Tel Aviv, it was done in self-defense and it looks like Washington was satisfied with its explanation at that time. In any case, no violations of the 1952 agreement were ever cited.

Tel Aviv used self-defense to justify its invasion of Lebanon, but all of a sudden Washington decided to censure its ally for having gone well beyond what could be considered as appropriate. Basically, I don't see any difference between moving troops into Egypt, Syria, Jordan or Lebanon, all the more so since Israel has always had excuses for using force against its neighbours. Why is it, then, that Washington is displeased with Israel today, in 1978?

The fact is that the situation in the Middle East at present is different from what it was years ago. In 1967 Washington could afford to lavish praise on Tel Aviv for what was called an immaculate execution of a fantastic military operation against the Arab countries. All Israel's actions were legitimate then. Tel Aviv displayed military muscle to a standing ovation from the United States press and politicians. The Middle East together with Vietnam was seen by the Pentagon as an ideal ground for testing its weaponry. Israel's battlefield exploits gave a feeling of pride to those who manufactured tanks, laser-guided bombs, jets and helicopters and supplied them to Israel. Today, however, the United States press does not applaud Israeli massacre of civilians in Lebanon and does not admire immaculate execution of yet another Israeli operation.

The reason is that a decade ago the United States needed Israel as a Middle East policeman. It ignored the legitimate rights of the Arab countries to be safe from Israeli attack and to live in security on the land that belongs to them. Only after the 1973 oil embargo that hit the United States, Washington began to show interest in some Arab countries. In other words, it took a slap in the face in the form of the embargo to make Washington realize that its former approach to Middle East problems cut deep into its oil interests.

Now if Washington is displeased with Israel's invasion of Lebanon, it must be equally displeased with Israeli occupation of all the Arab lands. Once it is admitted that there was a violation of the 1952 agreement between the United States and Israel and American weapons have been used improperly in Lebanon, there must be a full admission of past violations in regard to other Arab countries. But such a consistent approach is possible only if the United States favors a comprehensive settlement with security guarantees to all sides involved in the conflict, the end of the state of war, complete Israeli withdrawal, and the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arabs.

BALANCED U.S. APPROACH IN MIDEAST HIDES SUPPORT FOR ISRAEL

LD061243Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 1 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Article by observer Yu. Kornilov: "The Aggressor's Inciters"]

[Text] The ruins of peaceful cities destroyed by Israeli Phantom jets are still smoking in southern Lebanon and the sand has not yet filled the ruts made by the Israeli tanks, which turned hundreds of Arab settlements into heaps of rubble, but in Tel Aviv, where acts of aggression and terrorism have been elevated to the rank of state policy, plans are already being hatched for a further exacerbation of the situation in this region. The teletype is chattering out a string of alarming pieces of news: Tel Aviv refuses to submit to the UN Security Council decision on the immediate withdrawal of forces from occupied Lebanese territory; Israeli Defense Minister Weizman threatens to resume hostilities in southern Lebanon; the Tel Aviv military continues to mass more and more troop contingents, including tank forces, in this region....

If, as Britain's MORNING STAR writes, the Near East is the "biggest powder keg in the world," there is every reason for saying that the fuse from the keg now extends into southern Lebanon. By launching a piratical attack of unprecedented size on this sovereign Arab state--an attack which resulted in the occupiers taking control of 2,000 square kilometers of Lebanese territory--Israel has exposed the aggressive, militarist and expansionist essence of its policy to the entire world. Tel Aviv has clearly demonstrated that, contrary to the assertions of Zionist and Western pro-Zionist propaganda, it is not seeking peace in the Near East but is seeking to redraw the map of the region by force.

Clearly, Israel's invasion of neighboring Lebanon could not have been carried out without outside support and encouragement. The cities and villages of southern Lebanon were destroyed with the help of tanks and guns, aircraft and warships, shells and bombs "made in the United States." It is appropriate to recall in this connection that in the past 10 years the United States has supplied Israel with weapons worth the gigantic sum of $14.2 billion, and on the eve of the invasion of Lebanon Washington assured Tel Aviv that "U.S. pledges to Israel are the main aspect of American policy in the Near East and will remain so in the future."

Of course, we are not just talking about military and economic "pledges," whose fulfillment is nothing but the material support for aggression. We are also talking about comprehensive U.S. political support for Tel Aviv's expansionist aspirations. Although in the case of the events in Lebanon this support was tacit and the encouragement covert, it is no secret that the Israeli rulers notified Washington of their aggressive designs against Lebanon. The way this "information" was received is eloquently indicated by recent statements by official U.S. spokesmen about their "understanding" of Israel's actions on the Lebanese question.

It is also perfectly clear that although Israel had long been preparing for aggression against Lebanon and was only looking for a pretext for invasion, it would scarcely have embarked on a venture of this kind if it had been assured of a rebuff from a united front of Arab states. However, as a result of Egyptian President A. as-Sadat's separate actions, carried out under the patronage and with the encouragement of the United States, development of recent events in the Near East has contributed not to cohesion but, on the contrary, to dividing and weakening Arab ranks. Cairo's unprincipled capitulationist policy also untied Tel Aviv's hands in that it enabled Israel to launch a large-scale invasion of southern Lebanon. Once again we have confirmation of the fact that all the talk and maneuvers about separate Egyptian-Israeli negotiations continue to be merely a cover for the continuation of aggressive actions against the Arab countries--Israel's neighbors!

The triple deal involving the United States, Israel and Egypt--a deal which made the Israeli military's current barbaric aggression possible--is generating a growing storm of protests among the Arab and world public. Under these conditions certain U.S. circles who do not wish, as they say in the East, to "lose face" completely in the eyes of the Arab world, thought it best to effect a certain maneuver: taking advantage of Israeli Premier Begin's recent visit to Washington, they launched a vociferous propaganda campaign, obviously for "foreign consumption," about alleged "disagreements" and "friction" between Israel and the United States, which, apparently, is championing an equal, balanced approach" to the opposing sides in the Near East and all but "defending" the Arabs' interests.

Although the American bourgeois press is pulling out all the stops in its descriptions (sometimes downright dramatic in tone) of the alleged "breach" during Begin's talks with J. Carter, sober-minded commentators are asking the reasonable question: Where is the practical manifestation of this "breach", which has been widely publicized but which is invisible to the world? Has there been a breakdown in the "special relationship" between the United States and Israel, a relationship based on U.S. political, military and economic support for Tel Aviv's expansionist claims? Has the United States stopped strengthening Israel's military potential, which enables the Tel Aviv military to perpetrate endless provocations and aggressive actions against the Arab states? Is Washington no longer supporting and encouraging Cairo's defeatist policy and separate actions, which plays into Israel's hands?

You only have to ask these questions to see that, in fact, we are not dealing with a "balanced" U.S. approach to the opposing forces in the Near East, but with an attempt to cover and mask the well-coordinated American-Israeli hard line toward strengthening Tel Aviv's positions, deepening the split among the Arab states and wrecking a general peaceful settlement of the conflict--masking it by artifically highlighting certain purely tactical differences between the U.S. and Israeli viewpoints.

The absence of a settlement of the Near East conflict, Israel's occupation of Arab lands, the violation of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, the Israeli military's invasion of the territory of sovereign Lebanon--all this creates in this Near East "hot spot," an extremely tense and explosive situation. It is difficult, nay, impossible to predict the future zigzags and turns of events in and around this area. But one thing is clear: The path to lasting peace and stability in the Near East lies not through separate deals with the aggressor or through "security guarantees", which Israel wants to obtain by seizing other people's land. Peace can be guaranteed in the area only if all Israeli forces are withdrawn from all occupied Arab territories, the Arab people of Palestine are granted the right to self-determination, and the independent existence of all Near East states is insured.

PANAMA CANAL TREATY OPPONENTS CONTINUE MANEUVERS

LD071518Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1855 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington--The opponents of new treaties on the Panama Canal are striving at any cost to block the Senate's ratification of a second document--a treaty on the operation and defense of the canal which envisages that it will be handed over to Panama by the year 2000.

During the discussion of this document a group of conservative senators has prepared over 40 "amendments" and "stipulations" for the treaty, which essentially nullify the new agreements already signed by the U.S. President and the head of the Panama Government.

As the local press points out, today the opponents of the new treaties began to work on the senators who are in favor of the immediate production of the neutron bomb, with the aim of drawing them into their own camp along with any other legislators, as long as they are "against" the Democratic administration on any question they like. This maneuver by the right shows that they are not only striving to hinder the adoption of constructive decisions on a number of important international problems but are making use of the Senate discussion of the new canal treaties to further their purely interparty struggle.

This fall there will be elections to the U.S. Congress, in which one-third of the Senate will be renewed and the House of Representatives will be completely reelected. Within the framework of the forthcoming election struggle the Republic conservatives and rightwingers are making blatantly colonialist demands on Panama and are resorting to crude pressure on the Panama Government, seeking to preserve Washington's old privileges on the Panama Isthmus.

However, behind all this fuss the rightwingers are forgetting that the Panamanians are also participants in the new agreements and not passive observers. They desire the conclusion of the new treaties but, as is clear from the recent statement by the Panamanian Foreign Ministry, the Panamanian side will agree only to a solution which satisfies its lawful right to control the entire territory of the republic.

In the final analysis the last work belongs to the Panamanian people.

Congress Playing Political Games

LD081500Y Moscow in English to North America 2330 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The Panamanian Government has again expressed concern over the amendments of the Panama Canal neutrality treaty. The Panama head of government sent letters to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim and all United Nations member states registering Panama's displeasure over the amendments. We bring you a commentary by observer Igor Dmitriyev:

The United States Congress is due to vote on the second treaty next week. Last month it narrowly voted for the neutrality treaty studded with amendments that give the United States the right to intervene to keep the waterway open. The amendments also give Washington the right to use troops in case of emergency and provide for priority passage of United States warships. In other words, the United States Congress would like to interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign state using legal excuses imposed on Panama. Negotiations about the future of the Panama waterway have been going on for some 14 years. What makes this issue especially acute now is the administration's firm commitment to improve relations with the Central and South American countries, or so Washington claims.

The Panama Canal debates in the United States Congress have revealed that the United States is not prepared to accept the fact that other nations, too, have their legitimate rights and cannot be intimidated by America. The opponents of the ratification of the Canal treaty play up chauvinistic sentiments of the public. They hint that if granted complete control of the waterway, Panama can become an easy prey of a communist conspiracy that would be a threat to America's vital interests. But their arguments are meant to mask the truth: The people and the government of Panama are determined to restore their sovereign rights on their soil and their legitimate right to do so goes against the wish of certain American politicians.

Speaking of the discussion of the Canal treaties in the United States Congress, one more thing should be mentioned in my view. It has become a real fight; the opponents of the ratification have increased their pressure on the administration by linking the Canal with other issues. For example, the ASSOCIATED PRESS hinted that the ratification of the Canal treaties might depend on President Carter's decision in regard to the neutron bomb. In other words, what for the people of Panama is a matter of sovereignty, national pride and self respect, for a number of United States congressmen is a matter of a political game.

ARMS SHIPMENTS GROW DESPITE CARTER ADMINISTRATION PLEDGE

LD091138Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Sergey Losev commentary]

[Text] In the 1976 election campaign, the Democratic Party of the United States promised to reduce the volume of U.S. arms shipments abroad. Since he became President, Carter has repeated the promise of many occasions, including in his address to the 32nd session of the United Nations assembly. In February this year, Carter even announced that agreements on arms sales were to be reduced by $740 million in the 1978 fiscal year. Now what is the actual situation in this field? Our observer Sergey Losev offers the following analysis:

Facts show that instead of selling less arms abroad the United States increases the shipments steadily. The United States remains the world's leading merchant in weapons. According to official figures, the sale of American arms to foreign states went up from $9 billion in 1976 to $11.4 billion in 1977. In 1978, the United States plans to sell $13.2 billion worth of arms, and in 1979 the sum is to reach $13.6 billion. In other words, the American administration fails to stick even to those negligible restrictions it has itself introduced. The United States has been and remains to be the main supplier of weapons.

The only difference is that the list of Pentagon clients has changed in recent years. Till 1970, the main recipients of American weapons were Washington's traditional allies in NATO, apart from Japan, Australia and New Zealand. At present, the bulk of American weapons is shipped to the Middle East, Africa, Asia and Latin America. These regions account for 60 percent of total shipments. It is significant that most of these arms are delivered to spots of tension and conflict. Suffice it to say that Israel has received U.S. weapons valued at $7 billion over the past 6 years, and in the next fiscal year $1 billion has been allocated as military aid to Israel. In addition, Israel is to receive $785 million to insure its security, although it is a known fact that it is continuing its aggression with regard to Lebanon and still occupies part of the territory of three more Arab neighbors.

As he announced his program of restraint, President Carter urged all countries not to be the first to deliver the latest types of conventional weapons to regions where they had not been delivered before. He called for a ban on modernized systems intended exclusively for export and for tougher measures of control on arms reexports and suggested the idea of banning agreements on joint arms manufacture. It is not clear what concrete meaning the U.S. administration puts into these formulas. Congressman Lee Hamilton, for instance, reported that in the past 3 years the United States had imposed some 600 agreements on its allies covering joint production of American weapons. The total cost of weapons produced under such programes in recent years is estimated at $10 billion. The leading Amerioan partners in these programes are NATO countries, Japan, South Korea and Iran. More agreements on joint manufacture of conventional weapons are being drafted.

There is a number of reservations in the United States programme of restraint. It says that the proposed restrictions on arms sales will not affect U.S. allies in NATO, as well as Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

Under cover of insuring security in the Middle East, the program provides for further big shipments of U.S. arms to the Israeli Army, to Saudi Arabia and Iran, that is, in the region in direct proximity to the Soviet Union's borders. The United States intends to provide the latest weapons to pro-American dictatorial regimes in Latin America, Africa and Asia. Besides, the United States tries to lift restrictions on conventional arms deliveries by private American companies. Meanwhile, the volume of shipments of U.S. arms under the so-called commercial deals have grown sharply over recent years. Under the signboard of private deals, big consignments are sold to repressive regimes in Chile, Guatemala, Haiti, Paraguay and South Korea. As Congressman Downey has noted, the delivery of means of suppression to the above-mentioned countries in fact amounts to U.S. support of authoritarian regimes and direct participation in gross violations of human rights.

It is plain to see that concrete action, not just words, is needed to restrict international trade in arms. At least one should be consistent in keeping promises and pledges taken unilaterally. Of course, the United States is not the only country that sells weapons. That is why the time has come to take definite measures to restrict deliveries of conventional arms. A positive solution to this problem would help avert new armed conflicts, eliminate existing sources of tension and consolidate peace and international security.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned, in keeping with its principled course for curbing the arms race and for disarmament it is always ready to make a constructive contribution to solving this pressing problems.

VOA BROADCASTS SLANTED; IGNORED IN SOVIET UNION

LD080330Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Commentary by station observer]

[Text] The United States announced last week that it was replacing the USIA with a new set of initials--ICA, International Communications Agency. The ICA will include everything that was in the 25-year-old USIA plus a cultural affairs section moved over from the State Department. Here is comment by our observer.

The merger effected last weekend was said to be aimed at greater efficiency within the U.S. propaganda machinery. But no layoffs are expected and the new agency's requested budget for the 1979 fiscal year is a cool (?$413) million, which is almost $100 million more than for the two agencies merged. One of the most delicate problems in what seems to be a largely bureaucratic reshuffle is the handling of the Voice of America. VOA, the official U.S. Government radio station, is the largest part of the new agency, both in terms of money and manpower. Its stated goal is to achieve understanding through objective and unbiased reportage and news coverage. Objective and unbiased, however, are not exactly the right terms to describe VOA's broadcasts, and it's particularly true of its East European programming which has been so consistently slanted and lopsided that several East European countries repeatedly lodged stern protests against VOA's policies.

To listen to a typical day's broadcasts flowing from Washington, you would think you were right back in the good old days of Joe McCarthy--the same cold-war-mongering, the same shrill anticommunist bombast. And of course, like in Ian Fleming's espionage series, all the good guys in the world are Americans and all the bad ones--that's right--they're Russians, also interchangeably known as the communists.

But while Fleming's books are now taken with a grain of salt by most adults, the VOA people obviously mean business and would like to be taken seriously. Thus, if the possibility of a new SALT accord is discussed, the VOA would point out that those wily Russians would take advantage of the trusting Americans and the United States security would be seriously undermined. If the Soviet Union is helping an African country to thwart a neighbor's invasion, the station would claim the Reds were out to sever America's oil supply routes. Even a concert tour of the United States by Moscow's Bolshoy Theater ballet may well be interpreted as the Kremlin's attempt to sell the gullible Americans a totalitarian government.

Particularly hard-working in this respect are VOA's people engaged in broadcasting to the Soviet Union. They would describe in minute details how the dissident writer Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn felt about the Soviet Union and what perils Dr Sakharov's wife went through while getting her eye treatment in Italy. VOA's audiences in the Soviet Union are lectured daily on practically anything, from how bad a shape the Soviet agriculture was in to how particularly vicious was the Russian flu as compared to its milder American variety. A lot of people in the Soviet Union, to be sure, taken a keen interest in the United States and its people, and the Voice of America broadcasts may well be regarded by many as a source of information in addition to what can be obtained right there at home.

That's exactly where they are in for a disappointment. The Soviet listener discovers only too soon that VOA's programming is sadly lacking in coverage of American life and much too obsessed with reporting what life is like in the Soviet Union--something that people here ought to know better for themselves. It's hard to measure the impact of such programming policies practiced by the VOA, but it's certain that most Soviet listeners are turned off shortly after they tune in. The station's Russian service voices are immediately identified here as belonging to unfriendly category if not to downright inimical. [as heard] This is probably the last thing VOA people would have liked to bring upon themselves. However, the way things have been run up to now by the USIA officials, that's exactly the situation and to change it will certainly take more than just revamp an old organization. It may require a major overhaul in view of the ICA's emphasis of what was called permitting the United States to communicate with other people. It will be curious to see how the Voice of America will be able to adjust to the new concept. Meanwhile, it's not even on speaking terms with a significant part of the world's listening audiences.

U.S.-USSR COMMISSION ON ATOMIC ENERGY CONCLUDES MEETING

LD071455Y Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 7, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: The fifth session of the Joint Soviet-American commission on cooperation in the peaceful uses of atmoic energy (it was established under the Soviet-U.S. agreement of June 21, 1973) has ended here. The Soviet delegation was led by A. Petrosyants, chairman of the Soviet Committee for the Utilisation of Atomic Energy, and the American delegation by Deputy Secretary of Energy R. Thorn. The commission summed up the results of fulfillment of joint cooperation programmes for 1977. The two sides noted a successful implementation of these programs.

A number of joint seminars were held last year. The two sides exchanged delegations of specialists in various problems of designing and using fast-neutron atomic reactors and joint research investigations were carried out in both countries on Tokamak-type reactors into the problems of utilisation of thermonuclear energy.

Major experiments in elementary-particle physics were completed on a big American accelerator and with the use of Soviet-designed and built electronic and physical apparatus.

The session discussed proposals for expanding cooperation in such fields as storage and transportation of spent nuclear fuel from atomic power stations and development of effective converters of thermal energy into electric energy. The two sides adopted programs for further cooperation. The joint commission is to hold its next session in the Soviet Union in the middle of 1979.

Members of the Soviet delegation are to visit a number of scientific research centers and atomic power stations on the western coast of the US.

VOYAGER-II RADIO RECEIVING EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTIONS

LD072008Y Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Washington, April 7, TASS--Serious malfunctions have been discovered on board the American space station Voyager-2 that is on a flight to Jupiter and Saturn. As reported by the Washington STAR with reference to NASA scientists, the radio receiving equipment is out of order on the station as a result of which it has ceased to reply to the signals from earth. The automatic switch to a reserve device for the reception of radio signals also failed. The causes of these malfunctions are not yet known.

Voyager-2, which at present is at a distance of 286 million miles from earth, was launched into space last summer to study Jupiter and Saturn and also their satellites.

MILK CONTAMINATION IN U.S. BLAMED ON PRC NUCLEAR BLAST

LD071105Y Moscow TASS in English 1047 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] New York, April 7, TASS--Radioactive contaminationof milk was discovered in a number of southern states of the United States. It is believed here that this is the consequence of a nuclear explosion that was set off in mid-March in China.

According to a spokesman for the Environmental Protection Agency, radioactive contamination of milk is hazardous for humans.

PRC USING HONG KONG AS FINANCIAL SPRINGBOARD

LD081954Y Moscow TASS in English 1922 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

["Peking's Springboard"--TASS headline]

[Text] Singapore, April 8, TASS--Hong Kong remains China's main source of foreign currency. Every year Peking "earns" up to 3,000 million American dollars in that British colony on the Chinese territory, writes the newspaper SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST, with reference to pronouncements by representatives of Hong Kong business circles.

This figure includes not only the earnings from exports of Chinese commodities, but the interest from the capital invested into the colony's economy, which amounts to about 1,500 million dollars, according to the Hong Kong press. The Peking leadership broadly uses the colony as a financial and commercial centre. The testimony of this are more than 80 financial institutions of the People's Republic of China in Hong Kong, which control about 25 percent of the colony's monetary market.

Hong Kong is a kind of a transhipping point for legal and illegal emigrants from China. In the past six years more than 200,000 citizens of the People's Republic of China moved to Hong Kong with the permission of the Peking authorities, and more than 80,000 Chinese, according to the Hong Kong FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, entered the colony illegally. Many of them then go to Southeast Asian countries. The Indonesian newspaper MERDEKA wrote that the Indonesian authorities in the recent time arrested 1,252 citizens of the People's Republic of China, who entered Indonesia illegally.

TIENANMEN INCIDENT RECALLED, EFFECT ON PRESENT LEADERS

OW070311Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1430 GMT 5 Apr 78 OW

[Lazhin commentary: "The Lesson of Tienanmen"]

[Excerpts] Two years ago, the Peking propaganda machine made a sensational outcry about the Tienanmen incident, arguing that it was a counterrevolutionary incident engineered by a handful of class enemies and blaming it on TengHsiao-ping, the unrepentant capitalist roader. But now, Peking attempts to create the impression that the Tienanmen incident was incited by the "gang of four" to cunningly oppose Teng Hsaio-ping. In view of this allegation, it is necessary to review the other events that transpired 2 years ago.

We know that after Chou En-lai died, Teng Hsiao-ping was edged out and Hua Kuo-feng assumed the work of premier. After the Tienanmen incident was suppressed, Hua Kuo-feng immediately became premier and first vice chairman of the CCP Central Committee. A new stigma was attached to Teng Hsiao-ping, who was again relieved of all posts inside and outside the party, repeating what had occurred at the beginning of the Great Cultural Revolution. It is obvious that the "gang of four," who had not yet been described as criminals, did not benefit in any way from Chou En-lai's death. It is now said that the Tienanmen incident was stirred up by the "gang of four". But the "gang of four" did not gain anything from this incident. However, Hua Kuo-feng gained everything he could have possibly gained during Mao's lifetime, while Teng Hsiao-ping lost everything. Who would you say has actually benefited from that historical incident?

The Chinese people have learned many lessons from the Tienanmen incident. They realize that Mao Tse-tung's military bureaucratic dictatorship should never have been trusted because those in power apparently ordered that all memorial wreaths and the portrait be removed from the monument of the people's heroes to cause dissension. Before that incident, Peking residents' demonstrations to mark the Ching Ming festival had never included sabotage activities.

The Chinese people have come to realize that Peking's top leadership is never concerned about the people's well-being and that leading organs are fragmented due to the ever-intensifying internal strife. Mao Tse-tung and his followers hated to see the people use the commemoration of Chou En-lai as a means of expressing their discontent with the domestic situation. Moreover, Mao Tse-tung could not tolerate a struggle for power and influence with a dead man.

On Monday, the people began to lay wreaths at the monument of the people's heroes to mark the Ching Ming festival. The large-character posters erected at the monument characterized the Tienanmen incident as a revolutionary movement and rebuked the Peking leaders who ordered the suppression of the Tienanmen demonstrations, labeling them political clowns. The posters demanded that the authorities concerned publicize the exact death toll in the 5 April incident and called on the people to continue to struggle against the present regime. More problems arise as the Tienanmen incident becomes more remote.

Incident Prompts 'Gang' Trial

OW071845Y Moscow in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 7 Apr CW

[Text] Peking is prepared to put members of the "gang of four" on trial, including Mao Tse-Tung's wife and the three members of the CCP Central Committee Politburo. Foreign diplomats and journalists in Peking have based this conclusion of material written by Chinese jurists and reports by NCNA. It was reported that after the first session of the National People's Congress, the procuratorial organs, which have been restored, will put the "gang of four" on trial.

The new leaders in Peking are prepared to take this action to promote law and order after the change of the dynasty. At the same time, the aforementioned diplomats and journalists believe that not all the high-ranking leaders in China agree with the idea of putting the "gang of four" on trial. Some of them fear that they may find thenselves involved with the "gang of four."

The contention surfaced on tomb-sweeping day. At that time, the large-character posters at Tienanmen square demanded that the April 1976 incident be investigated. The appearance of such large-character posters proves that cadres within the Chinese leadership, who are prepared to put the "gang of four" on trial, are consolidating their own positions.

INDRA-LED DELEGATION VISITS MOLDAVIA, KIEV

Kishinev Stop

LD072346Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Shortly before lunch today the Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation headed by Alois Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the Federal Assembly, arrived in Kishinev, the capital of the Moldavian SSR. Vaclav Papez, our reporter, reports:

At the Kishinev Airport, bathed in clear spring sunshine, our delegation was welcomed by Comrade Kirill Ilyashenko, chairman of the Presidium of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, as well as by other representatives of Moldavia and hundreds of workers from Kishinev.

Afterward, Comrade Ilyashenko, in the seat of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Moldavia, informed the Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation about the work of the Supreme Soviet and about the drafting of the new constitution of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic as well as about the overall results of Moldavia's economy during the past period.

In the afternoon, the Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation laid a wreath at the memorial of the military glory in Kishinev. Afterward, Comrade Indra and other members of the delegation were received by Nikolay Zaychenko, chairman of the collective farms council, deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and deputy chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities. Comrade Indra listened with interest to a lengthy explanation about the system of agricultural enterprises management in Moldavia, which is to a considerable degree different from the system used in other union republics. He inquired in detail about local experiences from organizing comprehensive mechanized brigades within the agricultural sector. At the close of the Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation's first day of the working visit to Kishinev the delegation toured the exhibition on the successes of the Moldavian national economy and historic sights of Kishinev.

Speaks at Dinner

LD090052Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2250 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic gave a gala dinner in Kishinev today in honor of the Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation. Alcis Indra, the head of the delegation, members of the Presidium of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairman of the Federal Assembly, expressed thanks for the cordial reception and hospitality. He highly appreciated the immense successes Moldavia has achieved in all areas during the period of Soviet rule, which are convincing evidence of the correctness of the Leninist policy pursued by the CPSU. Alois Indra recalled the great mutual benefit derived from the intensification of cooperation and exchange of experiences between Czechoslovak and Moldavian agricultural specialists.

Arrives in Kiev

LD092230Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1630 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] A delegation of the Federal Assembly of Czechoslovakia, headed by Indra, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium chairman of the Assembly, arrived in Kiev today.

The guests were met by Vatchenko, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukraine, and other officials. The Czechoslovak parliamentary delegation visited the park of eternal glory and laid a wreath by the memorial of the unknown soldier, went sightseeing in the city, saw new buildings and visited expositions in museums and reserves of the capital of the Ukraine.

OVERALL SOVIET-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS REVIEWED

LD061537Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[N. Paklin article: "On a Course of Friendship"]

[Text] Soviet-Yugoslav relations are becoming increasingly diverse and stable. They embrace various spheres: economic, foreign policy and cultural.

Economic cooperation is rapidly expanding. The Soviet Union is socialist Yugoslavia's main trading partner. It accounts for over 17 percent of Yugoslavia's foreign trade turnover. Over the years of the current 5-year plan the volume of trade between the two countries has increased more than 2.4 fold in comparison with the previous 5-year plan and now totals $14 billion.

This year is completion year for a number of important projects which are being carried out in Yugoslavia with our country's technical assistance. One of these is the erection of a major industrial complex for the production of alumina on the river Drina near the city of Zvornik. This is the largest enterprise of its kind in Yugoslavia. Built to a Soviet design and equipped with Soviet tools, it will produce annually 600,000 tons of alumina--the raw material for smelting aluminum. Thermal power stations, metallurgy projects, mines and pits are also being constructed in Yugoslavia with technical assistance from the Soviet Union. A number of Yugoslav enterprises are fulfilling large Soviet orders.

Cooperation between the USSR and Yugoslavia is stable and plan-governed. It is based on a sincere, good-neighborly desire for mutual understanding and trust, on a respectful attitude to each other's experience and on strict observance of the principles of independence and equality. These principles are confirmed during summit meetings which have become traditional. On every occasion the talks between L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and J. Broz Tito, president of Yugoslavia and president of the LCY, give new impetus to bilateral relations whose basis comprises the strong ties between the CPSU and LCY.

There is no doubt that Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's reception of M. Minic vice president of the Federal Executive Council and federal secretary for foreign affairs, who conveyed a message from J. Broz Tito, on 28 March in the Kremlin will become an important milestone on the path of further expanding and deepening Soviet-Yugoslav collaboration. (We recall that on 27 February J. Broz Tito was handed a message from L. I. Brezhnev). During their conversation, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, both sides noted that relations between our countries and parties are developing successfully. Particular attention was also paid to discussion of the most important international questions. And here, as M. Minic stressed on his return to Belgrade, the general opinion was expressed that only the continuation of the policy of detente can lead to strengthening peace and security, to developing equal international cooperation, and to the settling of unresolved problems.

For a long time the fraternal peoples of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia have been linked by ties of friendship and combat solidarity. Today, when our countries are confidently treading the path of building socialism and communism, Soviet-Yugoslav friendship and solidarity are important factors in promoting progress and strengthening peace and people's security.

SFRY-MALTA COMMUNIQUE ON MINTOFF VISIT REPORTED

LD072330Y Moscow TASS in English 2015 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, April 7, TASS--Yugoslavia and the Republic of Malta are for deepening the relaxation of international tensions and for giving this process a universal character. There can be no strong and stable detente without the commencement of the process of real disarmament, emphasis the communique on the results of the talks between Veselin Duranovic, president of the Federal Executive Council of Yugoslavia, with Dominic Mintoff, prime minister of the Republic of Malta.

During the talks, the communique says, the sides firmly condemned Israel's aggression in Lebanon; aggression which is a direct violation of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of that country. The aim of the aggression is to weaken the Palestine Liberation Organization as a factor in a solution to the crisis in the Middle East. Yugoslavia and Malta are for a just settlement of the Middle East crisis on the basis of unconditional and complete withdrawal of the Israeli troops from all occupied Arab territories and recognition of the legitimate national rights of the people of Palestine.

The communique also formulates the two countries' positions on matters of European security and on other international problems.

The sides emphasised the role of non-aligned states in the struggle for peace, noting the successful development of Yugoslav-Maltese cooperation.

ROMANOV MEETS HUNGARIAN ENVOY IN LENINGRAD

LD070625Y Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Text] LENTASS--Yesterday in Smolnyy G. V. Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of Leningradskiy Obkom, received Jozsef Marjai, Hungarian ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Soviet Union, who is in our city. A friendly conversation took place.

Mihaly Golub, Hungarian consul general in Leningrad, A. P. Tupikin, chief of the Leningradskiy CPSU Obkom foreign ties section; and M. A. Yefimov, USSR Foreign Ministry representative in Leningrad, were present at the conversation.

OPENING OF COMMON MARKET MEETING REPORTED

LD071726Y Moscow TASS in English 1649 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

["Gloomy Summit Meeting--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, April 7, TASS--Ivan Ablamov, TASS economic commentator, writes:

Cheerless economic news made the leaders of Common Market countries gather in Copenhagen. In the opinion of the French newspaper LE FIGARO the agenda of the session of European Council of the Communities, opening there today, can be reduced to one problem: "How to resist the protracted economic crisis that afflicted the West".

One should not go far to find proof that the economy of Western Europe is ailing seriously. The low rate of development, the monetary crisis and the high rate of inflation and unemployment convincingly evidence this.

Prospects for the future are no better. According to the recently published report of the Commission of the European Communities, the rate of economic growth in the countries of the Nine this year will lag behind considerably from the planned indicators.

What recipes do the participants in the Copenhagen meeting intend to suggest, and can they, in general, suggest recipes to remedy the economic aliments of Western Europe?

The theory of so-called "three locomotives" circulated in the West at one time. It was supposed that the USA, the FRG and Japan, by artifically stimulating their economies, will be able, like "locomotives", to pull the capitalist train out of the quagmire of the economic crisis. The FRG and Japan, however, declined to 'pull the chestnuts out the fire for others', for fear that the whipping up of the economy will sharply aggravate inflation, and the theory had to be abandoned.

It was replaced by the "collective efforts" strategy based on the premise that Western countries must put their economic affairs right through common efforts. It is quite reasonable that such a course will be discussed in Copenhagen in preparation for the forthcoming summit conference of seven major capitalist powers in Bonn in July. The more so as these matters are on the agenda of the West, as was shown by the recent talks by the leaders of the FRG, Britain and France.

One can say now, that chances to implement the "collective efforts" strategy are so far not greater than those of the "locomotive" tactics. It is quite and quite difficult to count on mutual assistance in the conditions when the crisis afflicted all the countries of the capitalist world.

What a "collective policy" can be there be when the USA, in monetary matters, for example, pursues the policy which is advantageous to itself, without reckoning with the fact that it is of detriment to its partners. Washington, in fact, does not restrain the decline in the rate of the dollar, thereby counting on undermining the competitive power of the commodities of other countries and on putting right its affairs on the world markets.

The French newspaper LES ECHOS in this connection calls on the participants in the session in Copenhagen to counterpose a united front to the USA in a demand that it stabilise the dollar.

Contradictions between the EEC and Japan will be, too, felt in the work of the session in Copenhagen.

If one adds to that the acutest differences over questions of agriculture, fisheries and other problems, which tear asunder the EEC itself, it is not difficult to understand why the Copenhagen session is in advance called by many a "gloomy summit meeting" which will give no answer to the economic problems of Western Europe.

30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOVIET-FINNISH TREATY MARKED

LD061539Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Ye. Grigoryev/Yu. Kuznetsov article: "On An Unshakable Foundation"]

[Text] The Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Finland--an important document on the firm basis of which the USSR and Finland have been successfully building their relations for what is already an impressive historical period--was signed in Moscow on 6 April 1948. The conclusion of the treaty was a profoundly logical political step by both countries and, as time has shown, it has fully proved itself.

"The development of Soviet-Finnish cooperation of the last few decades has gone down firmly in the political annals of the world as a vivid example of the practical implementation of the principles of new interstate relations drawn up by V.I. Lenin," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, observed. "The high principles...were embodied in the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. We are firmly confident that the line defined by this treaty and by all its provisions has been, is, and will be the main direction for the development of relations between the USSR and Finland."

Celebrating the 30th anniversary of the treaty, many people in Finland are noting that the progressive forces in Finland, above all the Finnish Communist Party [SKP], which emerged in sociopolitical life in the postwar period have played an important part in forming the new atmosphere and new approach to relations with the USSR. The position of the communists, who actively advocated the conclusion of the Soviet-Finnish treaty, was supported by other left forces and also by trade union and youth organizations and by the "Finland-Soviet Union" society.

"It was a time," (Toyvo Karvonen), deputy chairman of the society, recalls, "when cold war champions were most active and when the international reaction was kindling mistrust and enmity toward the USSR. But the peace-loving, purposeful policy of the Soviet Union promoted a situation where Finland's broad democratic movement was able to overcome the resistance of the rightists and to secure the signing of the treaty. This document signified a final turning point in our countries' relations toward good-neighborliness and friendship."

But what have been the specific fruits of the practical implementation of the treaty's provisions and what has it given our countries and peoples in their various spheres of cooperation?

Let us turn first of all to political relations. The 1948 treaty created stability in Soviet-Finnish relations at state level and it strengthened mutual trust and promoted its steady development. The treaty has insured Finland's security and the inviolability of the Soviet Union's northwest borders, and it has become a reliable factor of peace in northern Europe while at the same time promoting the strengthening of security and cooperation on the continent as a whole.

Today the vast majority of Finns are convinced of the correctness of the country's foreign policy course known by the name of "the Paasikivi-Kekkonen line," which is based primarily on a policy of friendship and cooperation with the USSR. The country's current president, U.K. Kekkonen, a far-sighted political figure who maintains close personal contacts with the Soviet leaders, has rendered great services in drawing up and implementing this course.

The coincidence or proximity of our states' positions on many very important international problems have been repeatedly affirmed during regular summit-level Soviet-Finnish meetings. These problems include, above all, those of European security, the relaxation of tension, the ending of the arms race, and general and complete disarmament. The two countries' cooperation in preparing for, and holding, the historic all-European conference at Helsinki was of important significance.

Extremely impressive results have been achieved in the sphere of Soviet-Finnish economic relations. Legitimate satisfaction has been generated in both our countries by the fact that forms and methods of cooperation have appeared for the first time in their business relations which have subsequently passed into broader international practice. Among such forms of cooperation it is particularly important to note the long-term program adopted in 1977 for the development and deepening of trade, economic, industrial, scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of Finland up to 1990. It is the commonly-held opinion that this document can rank among the positive assets of major European politics and it figures among the appreciable steps in the implementation of the final act of the all-European conference. The long-term program, it was noted in a resolution of an SKP Central Committee plenum, "is a unique example of achievements and opportunities in the sphere of cooperation between two countries with different social systems, of cooperation based on friendly relations and trust."

The projects--which are being jointly implemented--for the building of major installations on the territory of the USSR and Finland where Soviet and Finnish workers and engineers are working alongside each other, are widely known. The work of the joint Soviet-Finnish Intergovernmental Commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation is continuing successfully.

An extensive program for Soviet-Finnish cultural cooperation for 1978-1982 which was recently initialed elevates the exchange of cultural and spiritual values between the neighboring states to an even higher level.

"It is precisely the unshakable foundation of the 1948 treaty that has made it possible to create the whole system of Finnish-Soviet relations characterized above all by friendship and mutual trust, which have been consolidated as a result of positive experience over many years," Finnish Foreign Minister P. Vayrynen has stated. "A tremendous improvement has occurred in the Finns' attitude toward the Soviet Union over the last three decades."

Preparations for the treaty jubilee began in Finland long before April. Festive soirees and meetings, lectures and concerts are taking place throughout the country. [paragraph continues]

The main ceremony devoted to the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish treaty will take place in the Finlandia Hall on 4 April.

A Soviet Government delegation headed by A.A. Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, which is coming to Finland at the invitation of the president and Government of the Republic of Finland, will be the guest of honor at the celebrations in Finland. At the same time a Finnish Government delegation headed by Prime Minister K. Sorsa will be participating in the celebrations in Moscow.

The document which was signed 30 years ago and which has twice been extended without alteration--in 1955 and 1970--has become an actively operating and positive factor of the development of relations between our countries in all spheres. The peoples of the Soviet Union and Finland cherish the development and enrichment of Soviet-Finnish relations in every way and the strengthening of friendship on the basis of the 1948 treaty as their own intimate and vitally important concern. Such an approach provides a guarantee of further fruitful, equal and mutually advantageous cooperation between our countries and peoples.

Kosygin 4 Apr Speech

LD071205Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[TASS report on speech by A.N. Kosygin at 4 April Kremlin luncheon for Finnish Prime Minister K. Sorsa under the general headline: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] It is with a sense of sincere satisfaction he said, that we welcome here, in the Kremlin, Mr Kalevi Sorsa, prime minister of friendly Finland, and the members of this country's government delegation who have come to Moscow to participate in the festivities devoted to a significant event--the 30th anniversary of the Soviet-Finnish Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance.

The very fact that we are being visited by such a representative delegation is evidence that the Finnish state leadership and President of the Republic Urho Kekkonen attach great significance to the upcoming jubilee. And our Finnish friends know well that the Soviet Union highly rates the friendship and cooperation with neighboring Finland. We see the 30th anniversary of the friendship treaty with Finland not simply as a round figure in the annals of our relations but as an historic event in the life of our countries and an event of great political significance.

The fates of our countries' peoples are closely linked, and it is not only a matter of geographical proximity. There is a direct link between the October Revolution and Finland's independence, between the conclusion of the 1948 treaty and the fundamental line proclaimed by the decree recognizing the Finnish Republic's state independence signed by Vladimir Ilich Lenin. Many difficulties had to be overcome and many ordeals had to be gone through before good-neighborliness and mutual trust became the determining trait in Soviet-Finnish relations. We have a profound sense of this trait as we celebrate the 1948 treaty jubilee.

Many good things have been written and said recently about relations between the Soviet Union and Finland. You all remember Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's remarkable comment that "friendship and trust between the Soviet Union and Finland are a very important gain for our countries' peoples and for their state leaders. It is a most precious joint asset."

A tremendous role was played in shifting the course of Finland's policy to one of good-neighborliness and cooperation with the Soviet Union by the persistent efforts of the country's democratic and progressive forces and the far-sightedness and state wisdom of its outstanding political figures--President Paasikivi and President Kekkonen. The Soviet Union, and not only the Soviet Union, rates highly Urho Kaleva Kekkonen's activity in the sphere of strengthening Soviet-Finnish friendship, strengthening peace, and advancing the cause of international detente and broad cooperation among states. It is very satisfying that this activity meets with active support among broad circles of the Finnish public.

Today although our countries are following their own paths, basing their mutual relations on the principles of equality, noninterference in each other's internal affairs and mutual respect, Finland and the Soviet Union have been able to establish relations of friendship and cooperation, relations based on mutual understanding and mutual trust. Thanks to both countries' desire to plan and do more today and tomorrow than was done yesterday they have been able to impart to their relations great stability and dynamism.

Is this not indicated, for example, by the fact that during the period in which the treaty has been operating Soviet-Finnish trade has increased 20 times and that Finland, with its small population, is only a little behind the FRG and Japan in terms of the amount of trade with the USSR and is ahead of all other developed capitalist countries?

There is no doubt that by following the course of good-neighborliness and friendship our countries will be able to a great deal more to develop useful, mutually advantageous cooperation in the economic, scientific and cultural spheres.

Last May a document of extreme importance to the future of Soviet-Finnish ties was signed in Moscow--the long-term program for developing and deepening trade, economic, industrial scientific and technical cooperation up to 1990. This program is a sound basis for further broadening our economic and other exchanges and for making them even more stable and effective.

In forthcoming 5-year periods our trade will considerably increase and the economic cooperation which is being successfully implemented in Lovisa, Kostomuksha, Svetogorsk and a number of other cities and areas of Finland and the Soviet Union in the industrial, transport, communications and tourism spheres will expand, also extending to the important sphere of environmental conservation.

While advancing their bilateral cooperation, our countries are at the same time making a real contribution to consolidating detente and preventing the threat of a new world war. The Soviet Union and Finland actively collaborated during the preparation and holding of the all-European conference. The time which has elapsed since the adoption of the final act confirms that only the unswerving and consistent fulfillment of the agreed Helsinki accords can insure the success of detente and security in Europe. Political detente and its all-round consolidation are the key to the solution of many problems.

In conclusion I would like to express confidence that the course chosen by the Soviet Union and Finland toward strengthening peace and developing international cooperation and toward the successful implementation of the provisions of the 1948 treaty will be continued in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the cause of peace and progress. We can confidently say that the further strengthening of good-neighborliness between the Soviet Union and Finland has become the common cause of the peoples of both countries. It therefore has a sound basis and secure future.

A. N. Kosygin proposed a toast to the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance between the Soviet Union and Finland, to the Finnish people, to their well-being and prosperity, to Finnish President Urho Kaleva Kekkonen, to his successful and fruitful activity in the high position of head of the Finnish Republic, to Prime Minister Kalevi Sorsa, to members of the Finnish Government delegation and to all Finnish friends:

Sorsa 4 Apr Speaks

LD0714317 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Apr 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[TASS report on speech by Finnish Prime Minister K. Sorsa at 4 April Kremlin luncheon under the general headline: "In a Friendly Atmosphere"]

[Text] To visit Moscow, the capital of a friendly neighboring country, is always a source of profound satisfaction, the prime minister said. As head, on this occasion, of a Finnish Government delegation which has come to participate in the joint celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Finnish-Soviet Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, I feel a sense of great delight. I am sincerely grateful for the cordial reception accorded me and the Finnish delegation and for the kind words which you, Mr Chairman of the Council of Ministers, have said in our regard.

At the time of the signing of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance the world situation was different from what it is today. The people of Europe, who had suffered terribly as a result of the long and devastating war, wanted above all to create conditions insuring lasting peace and creative labor in society. Finland's political leadership and the Finnish people realized that this could be achieved only if relations were reconstructed with the neighboring great power--the Soviet Union--on a totally new basis. The Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, proposed by the Soviet Union in order to safeguard the security of its northwest frontiers, marked, under these conditions, the beginning of a new era in relations between our countries.

The sides could scarcely have known at the time what a turning point this treaty would prove to be in relations between the two countries. We have always proceeded on the basis that the 1948 treaty is a balanced, unified whole. In peaceful, creative work the influence of the 1948 treaty is manifested most strongly in the economic and cultural spheres. As a result of cooperation between Finland and the Soviet Union on the basis of the 1948 treaty a system of agreements has appeared.

In this connection I would like to draw special attention to Finnish-Soviet economic cooperation--a sphere with which you have been well acquainted for many years, Mr Chairman. In past decades the Soviet Union has always been among Finland's top three trading partners. Now the USSR is our most important partner and it accounts for one-fifth of Finland's foreign trade turnover. In 1977 exports and imports individually amounted to 6 billion markkaas. Trade with the Soviet Union is a very important factor in terms of the diversification of Finnish exports and its production structure and also in terms of improving the degree of processing of products. On the other hand, Finland is striving consistently to increase and diversify imports from the Soviet Union. Additional import possibilities are being studied; the most important sphere is increasing imports of machinery and equipment and also natural gas. The central role in this work is played by the permanent Finnish-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation. The Commission on Scientific and Technical Cooperation is also of growing significance in terms of the development of our country's economic ties.

The development of Finnish-Soviet trade has always been characterized by its planned nature and its observance of the principles of balance and mutual advantage. The long-term economic cooperation program signed in May 1977 created, in addition to 5-year trade agreements, a new and important cooperation structure whose significance consists in the fact that it makes it possible to outline the main developmental directions of all spheres of Finnish-Soviet economic cooperation as a unified whole for a 15-year period. Apart from traditional trade, the program devotes special attention to the ever-growing significance of production cooperation and specialization and also scientific and technical cooperation with the view to the favorable development of our countries' economic ties.

Trade with the Soviet Union, which is of favorable significance for our country's national economy, increases commensurate with the decline in economic activity, also in Finland, generated by the world recession. Almost one-tenth of Finland's gross industrial product goes on exports to the Soviet Union. Industry working on exports for the Soviet Union provides work for 100,000 people, and in a number of sectors, for example, in the metal processing industry, exports to the USSR play a leading role in this respect. Thus, trade with the USSR is of very great importance to us. Speaking of economic cooperation as well as traditional commodity turnover we must not ignore joint production projects, which are acquiring increasingly great importance. I have in mind the important industrial projects being constructed by both countries on each other's territory. Examples of this cooperation in recent years are the Kostomukshskiy mining and enriching combine; the Norilsk copper and nickel combine, and the Svetogorsk cellulose and paper combine in the Soviet Union; the metallurgy combine at Rahe and the nuclear power station at Lovisa on Finnish territory. The permanent Finnish-Soviet Intergovernmental Commission on Economic Cooperation recommended at its 18th joint session, held in December 1977 in Helsinki, that the corresponding organizations of both sides study the new projects envisaged by the long term program of the economic cooperation. We are confident that our successful cooperation will continue in this important field also.

In the last 6 months we have celebrated major jubilees of historic importance for our countries. They are closely connected in history. First was the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution and then the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of Finland's independence. Now we are marking the 30th anniversary of the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance. On the occasion of these portentous dates, numerous events were held in both Finland and the Soviet Union with the participation of a large number of people representing various spheres of social life. In connection with the festive events of friendship statesmen met, as did representatives of political parties and trade union, scholars and artists. An important place in the holding of these great festive occasions is occupied by meetings between leaders of our countries in connection with celebrations last year and now in connection with the jubilee of the 1948 treaty. We Finns attach great significance to the fact that you, Mr Chairman, visited Finland twice last year: first under the sign of Finnish-Soviet cooperation on a friendly visit, and then in December in connection with the celebrations of the 60th anniversary of the proclamation of Finland's independence. After the holidays, ordinary working days come again. Results are being achieved in day-to-day work which give us the right to celebrate. The Finnish and Soviet peoples have already been practising cooperation for 30 years now in the spirit of the all-European conference, for the sake of peace, friendship and trust. The signifidanct results achieved on this lasting basis inspire us to continue what we have begun and give us the right to look to the future confidently.

K. Sorsa proposed a toast to the health and successes of Urho Kaleva Kekkonen and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, to the health and success of A.N. Kosygin, and to the all-round advancement of Finnish-Soviet friendship.

SECRET U.S.-EGYPT AGREEMENTS STIPULATE AS-SADAT ROLE

LD081939Y Moscow TASS in English 1714 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Rabat, April 8, TASS--The Moroccan LA VIE PARLEMENTAIRE reports in its April issue the existence of a number of secret Egyptian-American agreements signed in Alexandria and Geneva a few years ago. According to the LA VIE PARLEMENTAIRE, these agreements set out the foreign policy of the present Egyptian leadership.

In accordance with the agreements, President as-Sadat undertook to denounce by 1976 the Soviet-Egyptian treaty of friendship and cooperation, to exert every effort for launching anti-Soviet and anticommunist campaigns in mass media of the Arab Republic of Egypt and other Arab countries, to gradually equip the Egyptian Army with weapons of Western make. As-Sadat had also to favourably treat the idea of direct secret contacts with Israel, to try to eliminate the "radical elements" from the Palestine resistance movement, to assist the freezing of prices of oil which comes from the Middle East to Western countries. And, finally, the agreements envisaged establishment of close cooperation between the intelligence services of Egypt and the United States, particularly in questions related to their "common interests" in the Middle East.

FRENCH MAGAZINE CRITICIZES AS-SADAT INITIATIVE

LD071956Y Moscow TASS in English 1745 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

["On Israeli-Egyptian Alliance"--TASS headline]

[Text] Paris, April 7, TASS--The French magazine LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE published an analysis of Egyptian-Israeli relations after President as-Sadat's notorious "initiative" connected with his trip to the Israel-occupied Jerusalem.

The magazine makes the conclusion that seeking a separate deal, the Egyptian president made considerable concessions that mean an obvious departure from the common Arab stand in the Middle East conflict, the stand that was determined by conferences of heads of Arab state and government in Rabat and Algiers. As-Sadat recognized the "justice" of the Israeli stand which is essentially that the so-called "Six-Day" War of 1967 was a defensive war for Israel and "gives it full right to claim occupied lands", writes LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE. As-Sadat's actions also show that he does not regard the Rabat decisions as obligatory ones and tries to undermine the right of the Palestine Liberation Organisation to represent the Palestinian Arab people. "Neither As-Sadat nor Israel wish the PLO to play any role in the Western Bank of the Jordan River," writes LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE, so creation of an independent Palestinian state is no longer the necessary condition of a peace treaty that is being discussed by them".

The magazine says that the very fact of Egypt's striving to conclue a separate deal runs counter to the common Arab approach to the solution of the Middle East problems. All this was admitted by An-Nasir's "successor" who paid the price of sacrificing Arab solidarity, the article says. It was sought to achieve peace along the line of least resistance, for certain considerations prevailed over the obligation to uphold the Palestinians' rights.

"Begin and his advisers realized how advantageous this logic is for them, writes LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE." They offered to As-Sadat what the Egyptian president needed for concluding bilateral peace. By neturalizing Egypt, Israel could choose other partners and a different manner of conducting the talks so the West Bank of Jordan could remain under its (?control).

There was a great temptation to explain As-Sadat's recent actions and, specifically, his refusal to support the Palestinians as a gesture of despair prompted by demographic and economic problems of the present day Egypt, the magazine writes.

Exposing the (?groundlessness) of such an approach, LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE writes: "It cannot be asserted that peace will ensure a wide and long-term economic assistance which As-Sadat so greatly needs, specifically private foreign capital investments. In the same way, it cannot be asserted that by concluding peace, Egypt will be able to use for civil purposes vast resources that are now channelled to the military sector. The Egyptian Army takes in unemployed youth that would otherwise merely aggravate the problems of safety and public order. The cutting of Egypt's import of military equipment will be of advantage not to Egypt but to Arab and Western countries that finance these purchases.

As-Sadat gave up the course for the Geneva peace conference since Israelis had no wish to sit down at the conference table with representatives of the PLO, the article says. The formula of an overall settlement did not suit As-Sadat very much. He needs peace that would not remove Middle East tensions completely. Then Egypt would be able to prove its usefulness to the United States by playing the same role that he recently tried to assume in Africa (that is, the role of protecting U.S. interest in the continent).

LE MONDE DIPLOMATIQUE points out that As-Sadat's "initiative" was aimed at keeping this USSR, Syria and the PLO from participating in the process of the talks and that this "initiative" was supported by Washington. There is no doubt that a definite agreement was reached between Tel Aviv and Cairo. On the strength of this agreement, Israel received in return for the Sinai freedom to decide the destiny of the West Bank of the Jordan River and the Gaza sector.

"A new alliance is now being formed by Israel that decided to preserve real control over the entire Palestine and to oppose any satisfaction of the Palestinians' national demands, and by the Egyptian regime that decided to press for U.S. and Saudi Arabian subsidies. Both sides clearly agree to preserve tensions, taking advantage of the contradictions and difficulties of the rest of the Arab world, the magazines writes in conclusion.

WASHINGTON SEEKS CONTINUATION OF EGYPT-ISRAEL TALKS

LD071551Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 5 LD

[Article by Aleksey Vasilyev: "In a Vicious Circle"]

[Text] Cairo--As the recent trip by Israeli Defense Minister E. Weizman to Cairo showed, the latest attempt to resume Israeli-Egyptian separate talks that began last November has proved futile at this stage. Even Cairo's political observers are writing about this, admitting the complexity of the situation created as a result of Egypt's "peace initative" and the U.S. efforts to mediate.

The Israeli tactics at the talks held were constructed on the basis of increasing pressure on Egypt and forcing it to adopt Israel's conditions for "peace." Tel Aviv's position grew tougher both during the talks and after they were broken off.

But it would seem that there are limits to Caro's concessions; they are determined by the increasing dissatisfaction inside the country and by the isolation of the Egyptian leadership in the Arab world. It has hard for Cairo to make further concessions even if it wanted to. [paragraph continues]

As a result of its separatist actions a settlement has moved further away, not nearer. As the aggression against Lebanon showed yet again, the split in the Arab forces opposing Israel weakens their chances of standing up against the Israeli military and encourages Israel to undertake new military adventures.

The reckonings of conservative circles of the Arab world on Washington's intermediatory role, the role of the "honest broker" exerting pressure on Israel, were not justified either. The contradictions revealed between Washington and Tel Aviv during Israeli Prime Minister Begin's recent visit to the United States were no more than tactical differences between old allies, one of which sends the other arms and guarantees economic and financial aid and political support.

Washington made it plain enough to both Cairo and Tel Aviv that cessation of the separate talks would not suit it. If no "pax Americana" then at least the semblance of talks and the semblance of a settlement process during which it is possible to persuade Egypt into a separate deal--all the indications are that these are the tactics of American diplomacy at the present stage.

As a result Weizman will soon set out for the Egyptian capital again to continue the separate bargaining. Thus Cairo intends to pursue further the course which is increasingly complicating the situation in the Near East and reducing the prospect of establishing a truly just and lasting peace in this region.

MAIN GOAL OF U.S. DIPLOMACY IN NEAR EAST EXPLAINED

LD061233Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian NO 14, 1 Apr 78 pp 6-7 LD

[D. Volskiy article: "Amid the Thunder of Cannonades"]

[Text] What could U.S. President J. Carter and Israeli Prime Minister M. Begin have talked about in Washington at the end of March, you might ask, if not Israeli intervention in Lebanon? The more so as the meeting began in the most literal sense to the accompaniment of an artillery cannanade--on television screens in the White House you could see Israeli shells exploding on Lebanese territory, refugees with their simple belongings, the tense faces of participants in the Security Council session....

And nevertheless, according to the official report, Carter and Begin "did not touch on" the question of events in Lebanon. As if by tacit agreement, they acted as if nothing had happened in southern Lebanon....

There were reasons for this highly significant silence: The fact is that the Israeli invasion, long prepared with Washington's knowledge, is closely linked--however strange, however paradoxical this may seem at first sight--with the American "peacemaking" plans in the Near East. The basis of these plans is the formation of an alliance between the Israeli expansionists and rightwing forces in the Arab world. Precisely the creation of such an alliance--under the aegis of the United States, naturally--had already become the main goal of American diplomacy in the Near East in the time of H. Kissinger. The present administration has taken up this cause with redoubled energy. Especially since Egyptian President as-Sadat assumed the function of contractor by embarking on separate talks with the Begin government.

...The plan is truly global. Its initiators dream of immense benefits--reliably guaranteed supplies of Near East oil and income from it, firmly insured strategic positions throughout the area from the Atlantic to the Indian Ocean, control over most important world shipping routes. [paragraph continues]

The developing countries of Asia and Africa would be gripped between gigantic strategic pincers, as it were, and NATO would acquire a major subsidiary--a pro-Western "Israeli-Arab front," "contributing to strengthening Europe's might" and "providing a counterweight to Soviet influence in the Mediterranean...."

It is precisely in these terms, drawn from the Atlanticist military lexicon, that the plans in question are described by a representative of the true masters of Israel, who is described in the February issue of the London journal MIDDLE EAST as "one of the biggest businessmen" in that country.

"The Israeli way of thinking," he says, "is the European way of thinking. Israel is a part of Europe in the Near East," which is intended to become a sphere of total dominance by Israeli big business. "We must extend our trade relations to Arab countries"--this is the view in the main of the whole "new capitalist class" which has grown up in Israel with the aid of multibillion-dollar American help. According to MIDDLE EAST, the majority of that class "supports Likud or its ally-the Democratic Movement for Change. These new businessmen picture the Israel of the future as a highly developed industrial country and an exporter of advanced equipment. They...are aware of the immense potential of the Arab markets that surround them. Begin knows of the existence of this point of view and has himself more than once noted the advantages which could be obtained from combining Israeli technology with Arab wealth and raw materials."

You can already envisage the sharing of oil dividends with the desert shaykhs, you can already see Israeli goods swamping Arab countries, including--and not least--weapons, since, as MIDDLE EAST notes, "the sale abroad of only one squadron of Kfir aircraft would bring in as much foreign exchange revenue as a whole season's harvest of citrus fruit...."

But as we see, at the moment Israeli aircraft and tanks are crossing Arab borders not wrapped up and bearing a firm's trademark but with bombs loaded and guns uncovered. Incompatible courses? Only at first glance. If you look into it deeply, the main aim of the invasion of southern Lebanon was to clear the way for deals between Israeli expansionists and Arab reaction. Both are hindered by the Palestinian resistance movement. Both would like to suppress the national progressive forces of Lebanon and turn that country into a bulwark of Western influence in the Arab east. As is well known, Lebanese fightwing Christian organizations have already formed an open alliance with Tel Aviv. Is this not a prototype of the broad neocolonialist bloc which is planned for the Near East?

All this is really not for open discussion between Carter and Begin, not for press releases and communiques. All the same there is no doubt that the nervousness noted by correspondents at the White House talks was largely caused by the Lebanese crisis. It is hard to forget split blood. Even conservative Arab circles are indignant at the Israeli invasion and its seizure of new territories. Let us recall that even before the armed intervention in Lebanon the Egyptian-Israeli talks were deadlocked because of the Begin government's territorial claims. Now Israel has occupied at least another 2,000 square km of Arab land. And it is obviously in no hurry to withdraw from there, thus sabotaging the Security Council resolution. Under these conditions it will be even more difficult for As-Sadat to hold talks with Israel....

But what is to be done with the obstinate Israeli guest, if in Washington itself his aggressive ambitions are supported by very influencial forces? If Tel Aviv, with the help of the United States, which has supplied it in the last 10 years with $14.2 billion worth of weapons, has created a military potential which means it need by no means always reckon with the interests of its senior partner? If, finally, Israel is imperialism's "most reliable ally" in the Near East?

Here one can hardly help recalling the saying about the tail trying to wag the dog. And this is threatening Washington not only in the Near East. Similar symptoms can now be observed in southern Africa and on the Korean Peninsula. The so-called "subimperialist" forces which the United States has been rearing for decades are acquiring the capacity to involve their patrons in very dangerous matters. They are particularly dangerous, of course, in cases where imperialism's clients obtain--again with its tacit help--access to nuclear weapons.

It does not seem, however, that in receiving the Israeli premier in the White House they were aware of all this. "Requests" for military hardware were again at the center of attention in the talks. As for the "pressure" by Washington on Tel Aviv which has been so long awaited by other Arab politicians, Israeli Foreign Minister M. Dayan supplied exhaustive information on this point: "There was not even the slightest hint" of such pressure, he said on his return home.

But if there was no pressure, that means there can be no results from it. It is hardly surprising that after Begin's visit the possibilities of a Near East deal being included are assessed very pessimistically in American political circles. After meeting President Carter on 23 March, the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee spoke out quite openly on this. The Begin government, it seems, "has taken a step backward in the peace process," Senator C. Percy said. He was supported by G. McGovern: "Without more flexibility on the part of Israel, I see no hope of a settlement." And even one of the oldest "friends of Israel" on Capitol Hill, Senator J. Javits, called the prospects "disappointing."

The whole trouble, the senators complain, lies in the Israeli Government's refusal to do away with the settlements created in occupied territories. As if Washington had not been conniving for a long time with Tel Aviv's expansionist claims! Nobody but the Americans themselves are to blame if this policy boomerangs against long-term U.S. plans. But the adventure in Lebanon has shown that the temptation of seeking a way out of the vicious circle by violence has appeared. Do not the sponsors of the new Near Eastern bloc now think that it would be simplest to create it by means of the ancient method of "iron and blood?" And if the Washington POST has now perceived a "race between diplomacy and war' there, then for the sake of truth we are obliged to make this metaphor more precise: the American-Israeli diplomatic maneuvers are not so much "racing" against war as "playing up" to it.

INDIGNATION GREETS ISRAELI PLAN FOR PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL

LD0821730Y Moscow TASS in English 1625 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, April 8, TASS--The plan of partial withdrawal of Israeli troops from occupied south Lebanese districts announced by Tel Aviv was received with indignation in Lebanon. The country's prime minister, Salim al-Huss, said that Israel tries to mark time and artificially complicates the problem. He demanded complete withdrawal of the aggressor's troops from all occupied lands. This is our land, and we shall not agree to anything less than its immediate and complete restoration, the head of the Lebanese Government stressed. The Palestine Liberation Organization demanded complete withdrawal of the aggressor's from south Lebanon. The PLO representative said here that Israel's plan of partial troop withdrawal is a coverup for continued occupation of the biggest part of districts of south Lebanon. This plan envisages withdrawal of Israeli troops from less than a quarter of the lands that were seized. The Security Council's resoltuion on south Lebanon is absolutely clear; it demands the immediate and complete withdrawal of Israeli troops, the Palestinian representative said.

New York, April 8, TASS--The United Nations circles sharply criticised manoeuvres of the Israeli ruling circles that avoid fulfilling U.N. Secretary Council's resolution 425. United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim made a statement in which he described Israel's plan of partial troop withdrawal as being insufficient and not meeting the requirements of the Security Council's decision.

London, April 8, TASS--Quoting the opinion of military and political commentators in Tel Aviv, the British DAILY TELEGRAPH writes that Israel is not going to make haste about withdrawal of its troops from the south of Lebanon. It tries to use Lebanon's occupation for getting concessions in questions of the Middle East settlement, the newspaper writes.

Cairo, April 8, TASS--According to a report in the influential Egyptian newspaper AL-AHRAM, the United States shortly intends to take "specific steps" to intensify the efforts for the speediest conclusion of a separate deal between Egypt and Israel.

In an interview to the Israeli newspaper Jerusalem POST, the leader of the so-called Israeli Labour Party, Peres, said that Egypt's President as-Sadat told him in a private conversation about his decision to offer a programme of economic development of the Sinai Peninsula jointly with Israel as soon as agreement is reached between Cairo and Tel Aviv.

Kuwait, April 8, TASS--Quoting reliable political sources, the newspaper AS-SIYASAH reports that Israel worked out a plan of occupying the northern part of Jordan and establishing control over the heights dominating the area. The purpose of the planned military action,the newspaper writes, is to force King Husayn to open direct talks with Israel.

Jordan informed a number of Arab states of Tel Aviv's aggressive designs.

MOVEMENT AGAINST EXPANSIONIST POLICY GAINS IN ISRAEL

LD091106Y Moscow TASS in English 1035 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Amman, April 9, TASS--A protest movement against the Begin government's expansionist policy is gaining ground in Israel. Representatives of Israeli public organizations assembled yesterday in Tel Aviv for a meeting at which they criticized the present policy of the Begin government and decided to mount a single peace movement in the country.

They also said that they will hold protest meetings throughout the country demanding an end to the government's policy of aggression.

ADEN NEWSPAPER CONDEMNS WEST'S RECENT NAVAL MANEUVERS

LD081420Y Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Aden, April 8, TASS--The newspaper 14 OCTOBER condemns the actions of Western powers, specifically the United States and Britain, which staged recently naval exercises in the Red Sea. The newspaper stresses that the exercises were an act of defiance to all peaceful peoples and were directed against the forces coming out for ensuring security of the Red Sea area, for social and economic progress and national independence.

The newspaper stresses that after the defeat in Indo-China, U.S. imperialists and their allies turned to the Arabian Peninsula where vast oil riches are concentrated. Their special attention to this area has been manifested particularly of late when progressive regimes declaring against the aggressive imperialist policy consolidated considerably in developing countries, when ideas of scientific socialism spread wide among Asian and African peoples.

It is precisely in this connection, 14 OCTOBER writes, that imperialists now hasten to take measures to protect their economic interests which cannot be done without ensuring control over the Red Sea. The exercises of Western navies held close to the shore of Ethiopia and the Democratic Yemen showed the intention to establish such a control.

Our country condemns imperialism's intrigues, the newspaper writes in conclusion. It declared and will continue declaring for turning the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean into a zone free from imperialist influence and interference.

AL-ASAD, 'ARAFAT AGREE TO COORDINATE ACTIONS

LD091109Y Moscow TASS in English 1037 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, April 9, TASS--President H. al-Asad of Syria and Y. 'Arafat, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, had a meeting here. A PLO spokesman said they discussed the Middle East situation, Syrian-Palestinian relations and the situation in the south of Lebanon which was created by Israel's occupation. The two sides agreed to coordinate their actions.

SOVIET NAVAL DETACHMENT ARRIVES IN ALGIERS

LD082320Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1948 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Algiers--A detachment of Soviet warships, comprising the cruiser Moskva, destroyer Smely and a submarine, under the command of Rear Admiral Ryabinskiy, arrived in the port of Algiers today on an official visit of friendship.

On the same day Rear Admiral Ryabinskiy, the commander of the Soviet warships detachment, was received by the wali (mayor) of the city of Algiers, Dahou Ould Kablia, and the commander of the greater Algiers zone, Lieutenant Colonel (Allega).

During the visit, the Soviet sailors will familiarize themselves with the socioeconomic achievements of the friendly country and will visit industrial enterprises.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

PRESIDENT CARTER'S DIPLOMACY ON NIGERIA UNSUCCESSFUL

LD0720507 Moscow in English to Africa 2130 GMT 6 Apr 78 LD

[Text] In view of President Carter's tour of a number of Latin American countries, articles have appeared in the American press on issues of United States-Nigerian relations. Comment is by our observer, Vladlen Mikhaylov, and this is what he writes:

Describing the policies of the present American administration towards Nigeria, American journalists make use of the word "new"--a new approach of the United States to Nigeria, a new phase in relations between the United States and Nigeria. Such phrases are now frequent in American publications, but what is special about the so-called new American approach to Nigeria?

In the United States major American monopolies hold power. According to a (?just) comment by the Nigerian newspaper WEST AFRICAN PILOT, the policy of the American Government in Africa is aimed at protecting the interests of American capital. On the African Continent American monopolies are primarily after sources of raw materials, spheres of applying capital and markets for their goods. Profits and superprofits are their motto and their goal. Their goal remains unchanged. Speaking about Nigeria American journalists do not conceal the fact that oil is the primary American interest in Nigeria. The profits of oil and gas make the country the richest in black Africa and a major supplier of energy resources for consumers in the United States. That is, in the opinion of the magazine UNITED STATES NEWS & WORLD REPORT, the economic basis for all of America's foreign policy maneuvers towards Nigeria. At present, there are about 150 American companies operating in Nigeria.

First of all these are branches of the biggest American oil monopolies, Mobil Oil, Gulf Oil and Texaco. But their positions are rather shaky. The Federal Military Government of Nigeria is consistently following a line to Nigerize [as heard] the oil industry. The American business community is alarmed very much about the measures of the federal authorities to get the commanding heights in the key industry of the Nigerian economy and about statements of Nigerian leaders about their intention to fully push the foreign capital out of the sphere of oil extraction.

American oil moguls are also seriously concerned over the desire of the Nigerian authorities to fix new fair prices of oil on the world capitalist market. Lately, playing on the drop in the dollar's exchange rate, Western oil monopolies have made tremendous profits at the expense of the oil-producing countries, and they naturally want to have such a chance in the future. American monopolies are also concerned over the foreign policy course of Nigeria, over the country's firm position in support of the struggle of the peoples of southern Africa against colonialism, racism and apartheid.

South Africa is the main sphere for the activity of American capital. It's generally known that American investments in South Africa alone have topped the 2,000 million mark. More than 2,600 American companies are making fabulous profits through the merciless exploitation of the African population in this kingdom of apartheid who are deprived of elementary human rights.

There has been a panic in the business quarters of the West over the measures the Federal Government of Nigeria is taking towards foreign businessmen who maintain links with the racist regime. The American monopolies fear that, considering Nigeria's prestige in the Organization of African Unity, other African nations may follow that country's example.

According to statements by American journalists the main political objective of the American monopolies in Nigeria is to have that country change its stand on the problems of southern Africa and follow a so-called peace-making course that suits the Western monopolies. (?Generally) speaking there is and can be nothing new in this.

The objectives of the American monopolies are [words indistinct] the so-called new approach to Nigeria is reduced only to a change in methods of influencing that country. Whereas in the past Americans tried to influence the Nigerians by means of dictation, coercion, sabotage and blackmail--just recall the role of the American monopolies in starting the civil war in Nigeria--today, according to the American press, the U.S. administration has made use of so-called diplomacy of flirtation. Now, does this flirtation yield results? This is the question that American journalists are now raising and, as the American press admits, the first attempt made during the visit of President Carter to Lagos was unsuccessful.

SOMALI PRESIDENT SAYS ATTEMPTED COUP CRUSHED

LD091812Y Moscow in Somali to East Africa 1500 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Text] An attempt took place today to overthrow the Government of Somalia. Somali President Mohamed Siad Barre, addressing the nation on the radio, declared that the attempted coup against the government had been crushed. He said that members of the armed forces and civilians participated in the coup. News agencies reported that firing had been heard in the capital, Mogadiscio. The most important buildings of the city are being guarded by soldiers of the tank corps.

FULLER REPORT OF COMMUNIQUE ON MENGISTU USSR VISIT

LD072026Y Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1045 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD/EA

[Communique issued at the conclusion of the 1-5 April visit by Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Ethiopian Provisional Military Administrative Council and Council of Ministers, to the USSR]

[Text] Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administative Council and the Council of Ministers, paid a working visit to the Soviet Union from 1 to 5 April.

Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, who was not in Moscow, had a friendly discussion with Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam by telephone. Comrade Brezhnev congratulated the broad masses of Ethiopia, through Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu, for the victories won in defending the fruits of the Ethiopian people's revolution and the unity of their country against plots by international reactionaries. In addition, he expressed his wish for more victories in the Ethiopian people's struggle to crease a new order. Comrade Lieutenant Colonel Mengistu thanked Comrade Brezhnev for the international support and assistance the Soviet Union has given the Ethiopian revolution.

Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam and Comrade Aleksey Kosygin, member of the CPSU Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, held talks in a spirit of friendship and understanding.

The following attended the talks:

On the Soviet side: Comrade (R.A. Ilanovskiy), deputy secretary [as heard] of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade V.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Marshal N.V. Ogarkov, chief of General Staff of the armed forces and first deputy minister of defense; Comrade S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the Council of Ministers; Comrade L.F. Ilichev, deputy minister of foreign affairs; Comrade I.I. Chernyshev, deputy chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations of the Council of Ministers; Comrade A.P. Ratanov, Soviet ambassador to socialist Ethiopia; Comrade Mazurov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers; and Comrade (C.G. Sinov), (?department head) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the Ethiopian side: Comrade Maj Hadis Tedla, Provisional Military Administrative Council member in charge of defense; Comrade 2d Lt Legesse Asfaw, Provisional Military Administrative Council member in charge of military-political affairs; Comrade 2d Lt Gesesse Wolde Kidan, Provisional Military Administrative Council member in charge of economic affairs; Comrade 2d Lt Mengistu Gemechu, Provisional Military Administrative Council member; Comrade Maj Dawit Wolde Giorgis, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Comrade Col Tsegaye Meshesha, ambassador of socialist Ethiopia to the USSR.

The two sides held talks on strengthening bilateral relations. It was noted that bilateral relations were developing successfully in all fields. Both sides expressed the wish to strengthen relations and to cooperate in all fields in the interests of the peoples of the two countries and for the sake of Africa and world peace.

The Ethiopian delegation gave a briefing on the Ethiopian revolution, the present situation, the victories won by the revolution and the struggle of the broad masses of Ethiopia against imperialism and internal and external reactionary forces to safeguard their revolution and unity.

Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, on behalf of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and the Ethiopian people, expressed heartfelt admiration to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet people and government and to Comrade Leonid Brezhnev for their international support for the Ethiopian people's struggle.

It was stated that the Soviet Union has high regard for the great, radical change in the broad masses of Ethiopians, the victories won over internal and external forces and the anti-imperialist stand of new Ethiopia on international affairs.

In accordance with resolutions on friendly ties and cooperation between Ethiopia and USSR, the countries agreed to set up an Ethiopian-USSR economic, scientific, technical and trade commission (?drawn from government and social organizations) and reached an agreement to hold consultations on international affairs.

Both sides condemned: the persistent plot of imperialist and reactionary forces to hamper the development of progressive countries; the invasion of Ethiopia; and the interference in internal affairs aimed at violating the unity of African countries.

The USSR and socialist Ethiopia expressed the desire urgently for restoration of lasting peace in the Horn of Africa on the basis of consultation and mutual interest in keeping with the UN and OAU principles and charters; noninterference in other countries internal affairs; and independence, territorial integrity and renunciation of territorial claims.

The two sides expressed the firm conviction that friendly and goodneighborly coexistence among countries in the Horn of Africa could speed up their development. The two sides expressed concern over reactionary activities at the international level to balk the attempt to improve relations in the region and to relax tension.

The two sides condemned reactionary acts by imperialists and other reactionary forces to take control of the Red Sea by starting fratricidal wars that contravene the interests and rights of countries in the region in general and the Ethiopian people in particular.

They expressed the conviction that strengthening and promoting relations between countries of the region on the basis of the principles of goodneighborliness and noninterference in the affairs of others would safeguard peace and security near the Red Sea, which is a key international waterway.

The two sides confirmed that they will continue to extend unstinting and consistent support to the struggle being waged by the people of Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa for independence and liberation. As regards the struggle being waged against colonialism and racism, the two sides condemned the covert plots being hatched to maintain the interests of the neocolonialists through the establishment of puppet governments.

They called for the immediate disbanding of the racist Rhodesian Government and for the transfer of all power to the Zimbabwean people through the Patriotic Front.

They urged [word indistinct] that South Africa immediately withdraw from Namibian territory and that all power be transferred to the true representative of the people, SWAPO, and that racist policies in Africa be stamped out.

The two sides are gravely concerned at the plan for South Africa to possess nuclear weapons. They noted that if this plan is realized it will be a threat to world peace and stability. In this regard the two sides agreed that every effort must be made to block the fulfillment of the racist South African plan in accordance with the resolutions of the 32nd session of the UN General Assembly.

The two sides hailed the OAU's role in coordinating the struggle of free African countries to liberate their continent from the colonial rule of imperialism and racism. The two sides confirmed that they fully support the efforts of the organizations to promote smooth relations between member-countries in accordance with the OAU resolutions and charter.

The two sides expressed concern over the increasingly alarming situation in the Middle East. They roundly condemned the Israeli expansionist invasion of southern Lebanon and the attacks on the Palestine Liberation Organization.

The two sides expressed the view that the UN resolution on detente was both necessary and [word indistinct].

The two sides noted with pleasure that they have identical stands on the struggle to retard the arms race and on many other issues and expressed the wish to further strengthen their unity.

Both sides voiced hopes for a successful outcome to the special UN conference on arms limitation, which they consider to be a useful first step toward an international conference on the subject.

In their talks the two sides agreed on the need for an accord to be reached on the immediate cessation of nuclear tests and the manufacture of chemical weapons. The two sides discussed the need to halt the invention and manufacture of new weapons of destruction and were in agreement about this.

The two sides expressed the view that the socialist countries of the Disarmament Committee should urgently make every effort to put an end to the manufacture, collection [as heard] and distribution of nuclear weapons.

The USSR and socialist Ethiopia supported the inviolable international law of nonuse of force and said they would strive to make the nonuse of force a principle in international relations.

Mindful of the importance of the UN with regard to international relations, the USSR and Ethiopia expressed the view that better efforts should be made to implement properly the organization's intentions and principles for the maintenance of peace and security.

The two sides agreed that the whole structure of international economic relations should be changed so as to put nations on an equal footing.

The USSR and Ethiopia noted that the results of their talks on bilateral issues, on which there was an identity of views, were satisfactory.

The two sides expressed the view that the working visit to the USSR by Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and his delegation would further strengthen the cooperation and friendship between Ethiopia and the USSR.

Comrade Lt Col Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed gratitude for the friendly hospitality accorded him and his delegation.

The two sides expressed the view that the efforts being made by Egypt and Israel to reach an independent settlement have become a (?cover) for Israel to mount its illegal invasion of Arab countries.

The USSR and socialist Ethiopia believe that current developments in the Middle East should lead progressive forces to unite more strongly than ever before. (?Unless this is effected), not only will a restraint be placed on the struggle being waged to halt Israel's illegal invasion but also an obstacle will be placed in the way of efforts to secure a lasting peace for the people of the Middle East.

The two sides confirmed that it is their (?firm) conviction that a lasting peace can prevail in the Middle East only when Israel withdraws from the Arab territories it occupied in 1967, when the rights of the Palestinian Arabs are recognized and when they establish their own independent government for which peace is guaranteed just as it is guaranteed for any other government.

The two countries believe that such an agreement could be reached when all the parties concerned, including the Palestinians, sit down at the Geneva conference and make a concerted effort.

The two sides pledged to make unremitting efforts to reduce the threat of war and promote world peace and security.

Expressing satisfaction with the healthy international efforts being made to reduce tension and improve the international situation, the two sides believe that such moves reflect the wishes of the people of the developing countries, who are struggling to achieve national integrity and national and social independence.

REACTIONARY ARABS SUPPORT PROVOCATIVE RED SEA EXERCISES

LD071409Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 5 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[V. Vinogradov article: "Show of Force Off the Coast of Ethiopia"]

[Text] Fourteen combat ships, including missile cruisers and destroyers, are plowing through the waters off the coast of Ethiopia. U.S., British, and French naval forces are carrying out joint exercises, pratcising coordination between ships, aircraft and ground forces.

It is impossible not to notice the place and time of the present exercises by the three countries. The show of force off the Ethiopian coast testifies that certain Western circles are clearly unable to reconcile themselves to the fact that events in the Horn of Africa have ended with Somali troops being driven from Ethiopian territory. They are nurturing dangerous designs about maintaining a hotbed of tension here and wrecking the efforts of Ethiopian leaders to obtain a peaceful settlement of the conflict. As for the timing of the exercises, they came immediately after R. Moose, assistant U.S. secretary of state for African affairs, left Mogadiscio. Information agencies reported that the Washington emissary held talks there on direct supplies of American weapons to Somalia and that "substantial progress" was achieved.

Observers also note the fact that the provocative actions of Western countries, which are hindering the process of a peaceful settlement of the Horn of Africa conflict, receive support from reactionary Arab circles. Thus, at an Arab League Council session in Cairo, which was boycotted by Algeria, Iraq, Libya, Syria and South Yemen, the participants, instead of focusing all their attention on the Near East situation, which has been severely complicated by the Israeli aggression in southern Lebanon and the anti-Arab actions of Egyptian President as-Sadat, held a wordy discussion on the Ethiopian-Somali conflict. In this connection, not stinting threadbare assertions about some "communist threat", they assessed events in the Horn of Africa tendentiously and advocated giving all-round assistance to Somalia.

This position--and there is no doubt of this--is playing into the hands of Western countries alone, which, in "showing their muscle" off the Ethiopian coast and promising weapons to Somalia, are apparently interested in exacerbating the situation in that part of the African Continent.

KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER OPPOSES TERRITORIAL CLAIMS

LD072318Y Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, April 7, TASS--Munyua Waiyaki, Kenyan minister of foreign affairs, came out for the establishment of peace in the area of the Horn of Africa on the basis of renunciation of any territorial claims. In an interview with the local news agency, he emphasised that all the countries of the region must state in words and confirm in deeds their allegiance to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states--the earnest of a lasting peace in this part of Africa. Speaking of the Kenyan delegation's recent visit to Ethiopia, the minister pointed out that the delegation members were able to see for themselves the scope of destruction caused by the Somali invasion of Ogaden. Many civilian establishments and structures built by the Ethiopian Government for the population of the area were destroyed or rendered unfit. Touching upon the stand of NATO countries, which through their deliveries of arms to Somalia helped stir up the armed aggression against Ethiopia, and which now maintain tension in the area, the minister pointed out that in defence matters Kenya will now rely only on itself and not on those countries with which it is linked by agreements on defence. Kenya has such an agreement with Britain.

IMPERIALISTS, REACTIONARIES PLOT AGAINST ANGOLA

LD072300Y Moscow in Portuguese to Africa 1700 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Paulo Jorge, Angola's foreign minister, has informed UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim of yet another armed attack on Angola by Zaire. In a letter the Angolan foreign minister says that recently a large Zairian military contingent, supported by aircarft and helicopters, violated Angola's eastern border. There was a due riposte to the invaders, who then withdrew to their own territory. The imperialists and their henchmen do not accept the progressive and independent course taken by the People's Republic of Angola, Moscow Radio commentator Vladimir Petrov writes.

Through direct provocations, acts of sabotage and campaigns of lies and slander they are seeking to prevent the Angolan people from working in peace and building a new, free life. The young republic is thus forced to make great efforts and employ large resources to withstand imperialist maneuvers on the northern and southern borders of the state. Judging from press reports, various kinds of reactionaries, ranging from the Pretoria racists to the Peking leaders, are taking part in the plot against the republic. For example, a display of weapons seized from bandits during combat actions in border areas was held recently in the southern Angola province of Cunene; a large portion of the weapons had been made in China, and the bandits received them through the Republic of South Africa; weapons from NATO member countries, Zaire, the Republic of South Africa and Israel were also displayed.

The reactionary Arab regimes, which have fierce hatred for anything progressive, also actively participate in the imperialist plot against the People's Republic of Angola. As the British newspaper OBSERVER wrote, a 10 million-pound secret fund has been raised against Angola. The fund has been made available by Saudi Arabia, Iran and other countries. The money is for the splittist group UNITA, which carries out from Namibia sabotage operations in southern Angola with South African military and financial support. According to the OBSERVER, the money offered UNITA was supplied by the same reactionary regimes which contributed to Somalia's aggression against Ethiopia. The [words indistinct] by imperialist reaction is only too obvious. They [words indistinct] against the independence of the Angolan people. But this playing with fire might have consequences for those who started the fire.

ZIMYANIN RECEIVES CONGOLESE LABOR PARTY DELEGATION

LD072124Y Moscow TASS in English 2014 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 7, TASS--Representatives of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Congolese Party of Labour reaffirmed their striving to continue to strengthen the relations of friendship and solidarity between the two parties, between the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of the Congo. This is stated in the report on the meeting of Mikhail Zimyanin, secretary of the Central Committee, with the delegation of the Congolese Party of Labour led by F. Anga, member of the Military Committee of the Congolese Party of Labour, at the CPSU Central Committee today. The members of the Congolese delegation emphasised that the developing all-round cooperation between the CPSU and the Congolese Party of Labour, between the People's Republic of the Congo and the Soviet Union, plays an important role for the country's successful advance along the lines of national and social progress. The leader of the delegation conveyed a verbal message from Joachim Yhombi-Opango, chairman of the Military Committee of the Congolese Party of Labour, president of the People's Republic of the Congo, to Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

INDIAN COMMUNIST PARTY CONGRESS IN BHATINDA ENDS

LD071644Y Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Bhatinda, April 7, TASS--The 11th Congress of the Communist Party of India ended today with a multithousand rally.

Prominent figure in the Indian communist movement, R. Rao noted in his speech the importance of the CPI Congress for the further strengthening of the ideological, political and organizational unity of the party, for mobilizing the working people and their mass organizations in the struggle for the vital interests of the working class, peasantry and all the poorest sections of the Indian people.

The meeting was addressed also by the head of the CPSU delegation, alternate member of the CPSU CC Politbureau, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, G.A. Aliyev. We regard the participation of our delegation in the work of the 11th CPI Congress, he said, as an important form of cooperation, a manifestation of friendship and fraternal solidarity between the CPSU and the CPI. As sincere friends, Soviet people rejoice at every achievement of friendly India and wish the Indian people new successes in the struggle to strengthen national independence, for social progress and peace.

At their concluding meeting, the delegates to the 11th CPI Congress heard the concluding speech of CPI veteran S.A. Dange, elected 125 members to the leading body of the party--the National Council, 13 alternate members to the National Council and 11 members of the National Council include the prominent figures in the communist and working-class movement of India, S.A. Dange and R. Rao.

CPSU Delegation Leaves India

LD091742Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0730 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, 9 April--The CPSU delegation, headed by Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, left for home. The delegation participated in the 11th Congress of the Indian Communist Party. Answering journalists' questions at Delhi airport, Comrade Aliyev stressed that the congress had demonstrated the high ideological content and cohesion and the organizational unity of the Indian Communist Party and its loyalty to the cause of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism.

CPI Elects Leaders

LD091711Y Moscow TASS in English 1446 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, April 9, TASS--On April 8-9, the National Council of the Communist Party of India elected in Bhatinda the new leadership of the CPI. Shripad Amrit Dange was re-elected unanimously as the chairman of the CPI National Council, and Rajeswara Rao--as its general secretary. Also elected was the Central Secretariat and the Central Executive Committee of the Indian Communist Party.

INDOCHINA

SRV MINISTRY DOCUMENTS ASSESS BORDER CONFLICT, FEDERATION

LD071248Y Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 7, TASS--A press conference was held here today for Vietnamese and foreign correspondents. It was sponsored by the Press Department of the SRV Foreign Ministry. Official documents, titled "The Truth About the Vietnamese-Kampuchean Border Problem" and the "Truth About the Question of the Socalled Indo-Chinese Federation" were circulated during the press conference.

One document reviews the history of the border dispute between the two countries. It says, specifically, that the position of the Communist Party of Vietnam and the Government of the SRV on the border problem between the two countries is expressed clearly enough and that this problem should be solved in the spirit of brotherhood, mutual respect, friendship, goodneighbour relations and through talks. The Government of the SRV, the document says, urges the Government of Democratic Kampuchea to respond positively to the proposals set forth in the statements of the SRV Government of December 31, 1977 and of February 5, 1978, so that the two sides could enter into talks on a settlement of the border problem and questions of relations between them.

The other document, circulated at the press conference, says that the Kampuchean authorities slanderously assert that the SRV wants Democratic Kampuchea to join the Indo-Chinese Federation under the aegis of Vietnam. The Government of the SRV, the document says, states that the so-called Indo-Chinese Federation is a problem which has become a matter of history. Beginning with 1954, following the restoration by Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea of their national sovereignty and territorial integrity while their rights received international recognition, the Laotian side, the Kampuchean side, as well as the Vietnamese side, did not say a single word about this. The Government of the SRV says that the question of Indo-Chinese Federation no longer exists.

VNA REPORTS LATEST CAMBODIAN SHELLING OF SRV TERRITORY

LD081012Y Moscow TASS in English 0946 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, April 8, TASS--Densley populated areas deep in the territory of Vietnam were repeatedly shelled from heavy guns by the Armed Forces of Kampuchea from March 23 to April 6, The VIETNAMESE NEWS AGENCY reported. Simultaneously, the Armed Forces of Kampuchea crossed into Vietnam's territory in some areas of Tay Ninh and Darlac provinces inflicting heavy material damage. There are casualties among the civilian population. The Armed Forces of Vietnam counterattacked the Kampuchean units, which penetrated the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. They inflicted considerable losses in manpower and material on them and made the Kampuchean troops withdraw from Vietnam's territory.

BRIEFS

VIETNAMESE FILM PROTOCOL--Soviet cinematographers are assisting their Vietnamese colleagues in creating a documentary film entitled "President Ho Chi Minh in the USSR." This is stated in a protocol signed today on cooperation between the USSR State Committee for Cinematography and the Vietnamese Ministry of Culture. Aid from our country has greatly contributed to the establishment of the young Vietnamese cinematic art. Further cooperation is also envisaged by the protocol. This will include the exchange of delegations, holding days of Vietnamese cinema in the USSR and days of Soviet cinema in Vietnam. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 5 Apr 78 LD]

SOVIET, JAPANESE GROUPS SIGN CULTURAL EXCHANGE PACT

OW050601Y Moscow in Japanese to Japan 1400 GMT 4 Apr 78 OW

[Text] A 1978 cultural and scientific exchange agreement between Soviet and Japanese organizations was signed on 4 April at the Hall of Friendship with Foreign Countries in Moscow. The ceremony was under the auspices of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

The agreement calls for lectures, briefings and symposiums in Japan and the Soviet Union to exchange experiences of the daily lives of workers, the science, and culture of each country. A series of joint events will also be held, including, in the USSR, seminars on electronics, security in Asia, and disarmament; and, in Japan, seminars of specialists on the economy and marine productivity.

The section of the agreement dealing with various exhibitions is particularly interesting. Exhibitions of Japanese stamps and handicrafts will be held in the Soviet Union, while in Japan, exhibitions on Soviet architecture, paleontology and bronze works are scheduled. Masterpieces from the Tretyakov State Gallery of Fine Arts will also be put on display.

The Soviet Union and Japan will continue to exchange delegations of writers, painters, scholars and teachers. The exchange of students will also continue.

The protocol was signed by Ledovskiy, chairman of the Presidium of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, and Sugimori, director of the Secretariat of the Japanese Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.

JAPANESE MINISTER LEAVES FOR ECONOMIC TALKS IN GENEVA

LD091725Y Moscow TASS in English 1147 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, April 9, TASS--Japanese Minister of State for Foreign Economic Affairs N. Ushiba has left for Geneva to attend a meeting of the USA, the Common Market countries and Japan. The aim of these talks is to try and find a way out of serious difficulties now experienced by the economies of the capitalist countries. The persistent economic crisis in the West has markedly aggravated trade contradictions within the USA-Western Europe-Japan triangle. Washington and the Nine are seriously concerned by the fact that they had a tremendous deficit of respectively 8 and 5 billion dollars in their last year's trade with Japan.

The local press says the meeting will discuss ways of balancing foreign trade, the growth of protectionism, and stabilization of the world monetary system.

Attempts made until now at different levels to ease serious disagreements between the countries which are to meet in Geneva brought no appreciable results. Every one of the sides sought to secure advantages for itself. Therefore, local observers are rather cautious in their assessments of the possibility of achieving concrete results at the forthcoming talks, which, the newspaper ASAHI says, are going to be very difficult.

U.S. DEMANDS JAPAN CUT CUSTOMS DUTY ON U.S. EXPORTS

LD071220Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0946 GMT 7 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, 7 April, TASS--Washington has officially demanded that Tokyo should cut its customs duties on 500 items of American exports to the Japanese market. Japan has been told that this must be done by the end of this July. To counteract this U.S. step, the ASAHI newspaper writes, Tokyo is formulating counterdemands for cuts in duties on Japanese products imported into the United States.

This week a demand that Japan should extensively open its market to American goods was made by U.S. ambassador to Tokyo Michael Mansfield. Otherwise, he warned, the U.S. Congress would resort to protectionist measures against Japan.

Despite the fact that the parties recently agreed to reduce Japanese exports to the United States and reductions in customs duties on some American goods, the balance of trade is still greatly to Japan's benefit. The U.S. trading deficit with Japan for the the first 2 months of this year was, according to press reports, $2.383 billion. In March, Japan's exports to the United States rose more than 20 percent in comparison with February.

JAPAN'S DEFENSE AGENCY CONTINUES PLANS TO EXPAND ARMY

LD061453Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 14 1 Apr 78 pp 24-25 LD

[Correspondent St. Levchenko article: "Course Toward Militarization"]

[Text] Tokyo, March--Japan is forbidden to have its own army and to resolve international conflicts by the use of arms. However, the "hawks" found a way around this a long time ago--the country has had armed forces for about 30 years now, only they are called Self-Defense Forces.

The story of Japan's postwar army began in 1950. At that time, the 75,000 strong Reserve Police Corps was created with the knowledge and approval of General MacArthur, the commander of the American occupation forces. This circumvented the "peace constitution" adopted a few years before which forbids the country to have "land, sea or air forces as well as any other means of war."

At first the resurrected army was equipped with obsolete weapons. However, this did not last long. Gradually the size of the Self-Defense Forces rose to about 300,000 soldiers and officers and by 1977 Japan became the third-largest military power (after the United States and China) in the Pacific. The army's arsenal contains the latest weapons from computers to missiles potentially capable of carrying nuclear charges. The armed forces are managed by the Self Defense Agency which, in fact, attained the stature of a defense ministry long ago and whose head has become a permanent participant in all government sessions.

To the delight of the "hawks," the military and their business patrons, military expenditures are also growing. For 1977-1981, 12.6 trillion yen have been allocated to the armed forces--2.5 times more than in the previous 5-year period.

The 45,000 American soldiers and officers stationed on the 140 military bases in Japan must be added to the Self-Defense Forces. During the years of American involvement in Indochina, Japan served as land support for all U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific. Even now that the war in Indochina is over, B-52 strategic bombers "shelter from the weather" at military airfields in Japan.

However, not even this suits Washington. It is persuading the country to militarize further, demanding that it adopt new commitments within the framework of the "security treaty" and imposing on the country new deliveries of modern weapons. Statements are even being heard about the possibility of giving Japan nuclear weapons.

Responding to the question of an opposition deputy in the House of Councillors Budget Committee, Prime Minister T. Fukuda recently stated: "The possession of nuclear weapons is possible. I think that the Japanese Supreme Court will also support this. I am prime minister and also chairman of the Liberal-Democratic Party [LDP]. For as long as the LDP government remains in power it is impossible to imagine this viewpoint changing. Even if a cabinet led by another party is created I do not think that this interpretation will change." The newspaper MAINICHI commented on the premier's statement: For the first time he proposed the thesis that "from the viewpoint of the Constitution, Japan can possess defensive tactical nuclear weapons."

The policy of accelerating militarization is generating growing protest among the progressive forces. Representatives of the working class and intelligentisia declare that the population must not again become the victim of the militarists' games whether it is the former Tokyo-Berlin axis, or the present Tokyo-Washington axis.

Aware of the negative attitude to militarization of a considerable proportion of the public, the local militarists are cleverly manipulating figures and political categories. The inhabitants are placated with the statement that expenditures on the army still do not exceed 1 percent of the gross national product. But they forget to make it clear that, overall, Japan is fifth in military expenditures among the capitalist countries.

Knowing the Japanese attitude to thermonuclear weapons, they are lulled with the statement that there are no nuclear or hydrogen charges on the American bases. However, the Americans themselves refute these statements. No long ago, Brig Gen Walter Baxter, commander of the U.S. Air Force 18th Tactical Wing based on Okinawa, admitted that American planes in Japan are armed with nuclear missiles and that during exercises "the protective casing is removed."

Recently, big business has begun to demand openly the modernization and expansion of the Japanese Army. At the beginning of March, T. Doko, president of the Federation of Economic Organizations, and S. Nagano, president of the Chamber of Trade and Industry, called upon the government to lift the ban on arms exports. Realizing that this initiative might generate sharp public protest, the business leaders intimated the inhabitants. They said that the deep economic depression promises to become protracted. They claim that it is essential to take certain urgent measures, including the increase of military orders in the steel, engineering and other industries.

The conclusion is banal: If you want to escape the crisis--then arm. What about the Constitution? How should one interpret the statement of government leaders on peace and the need to preserve stability in Asia?

Understanding the difficult position of their Japanese colleagues, Washington quickly came to their assistance. U.S. Defense Secretary Brown recently stated that the White House and the Pentagon are satisfied with Japan's desire to expand and modernize the air force, navy and military transportation.

But the matter was not limited to words. In March, American and South Korean maneuvers took place under the name of Team Spirit-78. Major units of the U.S. Army arrived in South Korea from bases on Hawaii, the Philippines and Japan. Lance missile divisions armed with nuclear warheads were put on combat alert. Destroyers began to scurry around the Korean Peninsula and the aircraft carrier Midway, armed with nuclear weapons, left the port of Yokosuka.

The Japanese press hurriedly published reports on the maneuvers. Government representatives again issued statements about the need to preserve the U.S. presence in South Korea to protect against the "communist threat."

...At 1700 this evening, a crowd of well-dressed civil servants will leave the gates of an unobtrusive building in the Roppongi region of Tokyo. Presumably, they are normal civil servants hurrying home after a day's work. However, their military bearing is striking. The Self Defense Agency is housed in the buildings in Roppongi. And though the "civil servants" are not in uniform, it is only a disguise. The elaboration of plans for expanding the army is in full swing in the Self-Defense Agency.

SEOUL'S APPETITE FOR NUCLEAR CAPABILITY GROWING

LD061341Y Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 2 Apr 78 p 3 LD

[Article by V. Biryukov: "Seoul's Nuclear Appetite"]

[Text] The Seoul puppet regime possesses a powerful military machine on which the United States has spent almost $7 billion. In an attempt to strengthen the bridgehead of the Korean Peninsula, a bridgehead of strategic importance to the Pentagon, Seoul's patrons are promising more and more appropriations for military needs, thus encouraging the nuclear aspirations of the Pak Chong-hui regime.

Seouls' plans to become a nuclear power are long standing. But now the puppet regime has embarked on concrete steps in this direction, with Washington footing the bill, of course. A representative of the South Korean state company "Utility" reported recently that Seoul has decided to conclude a $1 billion contract with the American firm Westinghouse for the delivery of two powerful nuclear reactors to South Korea. This decision was made after an understanding had been reached in Washington with the U.S. Export and Import Bank to grant South Korea a substantial loan.

Other facts indicate the Seoul puppets' nuclear ambitions. During the recent American-South Korean maneuvers, Lance missile subunits were dispatched from the United States to South Korea. These are the latest warheads. According to the KYODO NEWS AGENCY, Seoul military officials do not exclude the possibility of the United States' leaving these lethal weapons in South Korea.

The growth of Seoul's nuclear appetite is bound to cause anxiety in Southeast Asian countries and among the world public. This strengthening of the South Korean regime's military potential leads to the fueling of tension in the area.

BREZHNEV ENDS TOUR OF FAR EAST, RETURNS TO MOSCOW

Addresses Komsomolsk Workers

LD081415Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] On this spring day, Komsomolsk-on-Amur has become more decorated and full of people. The town's streets and squares are decorated with flags and slogans; thousands of inhabitants have warmly welcomed Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, who arrived there today. Arriving along with Comrade Brezhnev were Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; Zamyatin, head of a department of the party Central Committee; and Fleet Admiral of the Soviet Union Gorshkov, commander-in-chief of the USSR Navy.

At the airport, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was met by Chernyy, first secretary of the Khabarovsk Kraykom; (Buryak), first secretary of the Komsomolsk-on-Amur Gorkom; members of the kraykom and gorkom bureaus; Army General Tretyak, commander of the Far Eastern Military Okrug; and representatives of the working people.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev visited the historic sight in Komsomolsk-on-Amur: the granite monolith on which are inscribed the words: here, on 10 May 1932, the first Komsomol builders of the town arrived. He inspected the bridge over the Amur built 2.5 years ago--known as the eastern gate of the Baykal-Amur mainline, which is under construction--and the town's newly built areas.

Leonid Ilich visited the Gagarin machine construction plant and the Leninist Komsomol. In the workshops he talked to workers and engineers, and took an interest in the conditions of labor, services, wages and production efficiency.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's question--How are the workers' lives and work going?--everywhere received the unanimous answer: Well, thanks to the party for its concern about us in the Far East.

And how about wages, Leonid Ilich asked.

We are not complaining; we are earning well.

And how about labor productivity?

Our increase in labor productivity is exceeding our increase in pay, said (Uchmin), director of the enterprise. This is being achieved by an efficient use of basic funds.

Summing up the conversations, Leonid Ilich said: I can see that your mood is good and your work is going smoothly. It is pleasant for me to hear the kind words from you addressed to our party about its concern for people.

Thank you, Leonid Ilich, for visiting our town. Please come and visit us again, the workers said as they saw Leonid Ilich Brezhnev off with firm handshakes.

I shall try.

At the Leniskiy Komsomol machine construction plant, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev made a speech to the representatives of the town's workers. He said [announcer-read]

Comrades: While visiting the Far East I had to visit your remarkable town. This is my first visit here, and what we have been able to see has made an immense impression. It is the majestic panorama of a modern industrial town erected in places where quite recently there was just taiga. For every Soviet person, Komsomolsk-on-Amur is not simply a big industrial, scientific and cultural center in the east of the country; it is a town with an unusual history. Many of you remember well the truly unforgettable time in the thirties when the industrial assimilation of the Far East became a matter for all the people and one of the most important tasks of socialist construction. At that time, the country sent its best sons and daughters to the banks of the Amur. They traveled to this far-off but rich region on Komsomol tickets, answering the call of their hearts, to build a large industrial center and a town with their own name on the Amur. It has been 45 years since the first stone commemorating the founding of Komsomolsk was laid. This is not long for a town, but look how much has been done in that time. Today, Komsomolsk is a modern town with well-appointed housing; it has all that is necessary for a full life--schools, technical colleges, institutes, cinemas, places for children. Its plants and factories produce steel, ocean-going vessels, electric gantry cranes, petrochemicals, dozens of types of casting equipment, prefabricated ferroconcrete structures and consumer goods.

The industrial output of your factories plays an important role in developing the productive forces of the entire Far Eastern economic region. Now the town even has satellite villages--Amurskiy and Solnechnyy--where machine construction and timber chemistry have been developed. But the most important wealth of Komsomolsk is its people: the workers, engineers, teachers and students are uniting toilers, true patriots of their region, boundlessly devoted to the cause of the party and people. With complete understanding that their town is in a border area, they are working with much persistence, not sparing their energy, strength and knowledge, in the name of a noble aim: strengthening the economic and defensive might of the Far Eastern horizons of the socialist fatherland. In addition, they are carrying out selflessly the labor watch, and demonstrating a high level of political vigilance, responsibility and organization.

Everybody knows those who first built the town; many of them are still on duty today, and today's young people are trying to equal them and following their example. Comrades, it is a great joy to know that in our great Soviet family, sons and daughters are growing who are the worthy continuers of our common cause--the building of communism.

I became convinced of this once more by the example of your machine construction plant. Among its collective every second worker is a communist labor shock worker, and among the shock workers are hundreds of young production workers who have mastered to perfection the most up-to-date technology and are achieving high quality and good work indices based upon this mastery.

I was told today that the majority of the workers and engineers are working at your plant according to personal creative plans, the implementation of which accelerates technical progress. This is characteristic of socialist competition in the epoch of the expanded construction of communism, when every collective is fully conscious of its valuable responsibility for running production affairs. And is not only fully conscious of this but implements it efficiently [pokhozyeyski] in actual fact. This is characteristic of the times, and it bears witness to the triumph of our socialist democracy.

As you are aware, in the course of discussing the USSR Draft Constitution, thousands of proposals were sent to the constitutional committee to the effect that the fundamental [osnovnoy] law of the country should more widely reflect the tasks and rights of the working collective. These proposals were taken into consideration, and the Constitution has given the working collective extensive rights in such spheres as planning production and social development, cadre training and placement, improving the people's labor and living conditions, increasing their qualifications, and instilling in them a communist attitude to work. Having legally confirmed the significance of the working collective as the primary cell of our entire economic mechanism, Soviet society has granted it very extensive rights to take decisions on important state matters.

Nowhere in the world do working people have such rights. The strength and efficacy of socialist competition at the present stage does not lie in the achievement of individual--albeit high--awards and records, but in the fact that every collective should work without anyone lagging behind, and with precision and efficiency. Only in this will we be able to observe in all sections of the national economy a high degree of production and planning discipline, constantly seek out and utilize new reserves, and increase the quality of the final product.

It is no secret, comrades, that frequently there are people in plants and factories, side by side with production workers, who do not fulfill their norms; who do not take care of national property; who shirk work and produce substandard goods. There are probably such instances at your plant as well. Collectives, their party trade union and Komsomol organizations, should give this serious and self-critical thought in order to eliminate them speedily. This, comrades, is your noble right as a worker; it is also your civic responsibility and, if you will, your duty.

The Central Committee of our party and the Soviet Government are constatly concerned about increasing the standard of living and the material well-being of our population in the Far East. During the past few years, the Central Committee of our party has adopted measures to improve the well-being of the working people in Komsomolsk-on-Amur, Komsomolskiy and some territories of Amurskiy Rayon in Khabarovskiy Kray. All this is proof of the practical implementation of the extensive social program adopted by the 25th congress of our party. I am convinced that in response to the concern of the party and the state, your townspeople will multiply their labor achievements. In short, there will be no reduction in the tasks you have ahead of you in your wonderful town and on your Far Eastern land. I can assure you of that. On the contrary, development of the kray will continue more intensively in accordance with the program for developing the Siberian and Far Eastern regions.

This is the speed, comrades, with which life in our country develops. Allow me to wish you that your town remain young, multiply its glorious traditions and remain for all present and future generations the symbol of valor, work and heroism. I wish you great labor successes. I hope that you, machine constructors in Komsomalsk-on-Amur, will honorably fulfill the tasks of the 5-year plan and will always remain in the front ranks of production leaders. Thank you, comrades, for your noble labor.

After the speech, some of the first builders of Komsomolsk-on-Amur--(Opalev) deputy manager of Komsomolsk-Zhil-Stroy Trust, and (Samat), member of the Komsomol and Amur-Stal rolling mill worker--spoke. On behalf of all working people and inhabitants of Komsomolsk-on-Amur, they expressed their cordial gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and, personally, to Leonid Ilich, for the constant concern shown for developing the Far East and their hometown--Komsomolsk-on-Amur. They gave an assurance that the working class of the town would definitely implement the plans for the shock year of 1978, the plans of the Tenth 5-Year Plan.

Accompanied by prolonged applause from those present, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was handed the diploma and the medal given to honored citizens of Komsomolsk-on-Amur.

Departs Vladivostok

LD090628Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, left Vladivostok for Moscow today. Comrade Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister; Comrade Zamyatin, head of a CPSU Central Committee department; and Admiral of the Soviet Fleet Comrade Gorshkov, commander in chief of USSR Navy, left with him.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was warmly seen off at the airport by Comrade Lomakin, first secretary of the Primorskiy Kraykom. Comrade Korobanov, chairman of the krayispolkom; members of the kraykom bureau; Commander of Troops of the Far East Military Okrug Army General Comrade Tretyak; and Commander of Pacific Fleet Admiral Comrade Maslov.

At the airport Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was cordially greeted by representatives of the working people of Vladivostok. The plane set course for Moscow. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1000 GMT on 9 April carries a report on Brezhnev's departure from Vladivostok, which adds: "Before departure, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, replying to a question by a correspondent from Soviet Television and Radio as to whether he was satisfied with his trip, said that it had been a remarkable trip. There were a great number of meetings with the people and the working class."]

Returns to Moscow

LD091613Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1245 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Comrades, we have just received a TASS report on the arrival of Comrade Brezhnev in Moscow.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, returned to Moscow today from his trip to towns in Siberia and the Far East. Arriving with him were Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense; Gorshkov, admiral of the Soviet fleet and commander-in-chief of the USSR Navy; and Zamyatin, head of a department of the CPSU Central Committee.

At the airport, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev was met by members of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo Grishin, Gromyko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Mazurov, Suslov; candidate members of the Politburo Aliyev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Solomentsev and Chernenko; secretaries of the CPSU Central Committee Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov and Rusakov; members of the CPSU Central Committee Bugayev, Pavlov, Tikhonov, Tsukanov and Sholokhov; candidate members of the CPSU Central Committee Aleksandrov, Tsvigun, Tsinov and Chebrikov; member of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission Blatov; and Pavlovskiy, USSR minister [of railways]. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1730 GMT on 9 April notes that "Comrade Brezhnev was met by Comrades Andropov, Grishin, Gromyko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Mazurov, Suslov, Aliyev, Demichev, Kuznetsov, Solomentsev, Chernenko, Kapitanov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin, Ryabov, Rusakov and other officials."]

The speech of the Soviet leader shows that the USSR does not threaten anyone, writes the Syrian ATH-THAWRAH. The USSR comes out for peace and is perfecting its defence with the sole purpose of firmly guarding the gains of the Great October, reliably protecting the peaceful work of Soviet people, their friends and allies.

Soviet People Praise Speech

LD091104Y Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 9, TASS--Soviet people unanimously approve of the speech made by Leonid Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, before Pacific Fleet sailors on Friday.

It is with great interest that the builders of the Sayano-Shuzhenskaya hydropower station in Siberia received Leonid Brezhnev's speech. There is no greater happiness on earth than to live under peaceful skies, to sow grain and to rear children, to build houses and dams. Thanks to the wise peace policy of the Communist Party, our people have been engaged in constructive work for over thirty years now, said M. Mashchenko, a worker.

"We do not threaten anyone, as is alleged by those who are interested in building up an atmosphere of fear and hostility. Speaking before Pacific Fleet sailors, Leonid Brezhnev said that the main problem now on the order of the day is to stop the arms race and to ensure progress toward reducing and eventually removing the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe. He was speaking the sentiments of all the Soviet people", said E. Cheban, the leader of a building team from Kishinev, the capital of Moldavia.

The most important and most pressing problem now is that of preserving peace and averting war. The way to achieve this is by stopping the arms race. It is known by all that our country has never come out from positions of strength in the international arena. The only mission of the Soviet Armed Forces is to defend reliably the gains of the October Revolution, and to guard the peaceful work of the Soviet people and our friends and allies", said T. Schwartz, a worker from Riga, the capital of Soviet Latvia.

More World Press Reaction

LD091755Y Moscow TASS in English 1744 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 9, TASS--The speech made by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Chairman of the Defence Council of the USSR Leonid Brezhnev on the cruiser Admiral Senyavin before the seamen of the Soviet naval fleet on the Pacific is still in the centre of attention of the world press.

"Leonid Brezhnev's speech in Vladivostok aroused tremendous interest among world public opinion," writes RUDE PRAVO of Czechoslovakia. This is because the ideas voiced by the Soviet leader are in tune with the aspirations of all mankind--to live in peace." Another Czechoslovak paper, PRAVDA, writes: "The clear and truthful words of Leonid Brezhnev to the effect that manoeuvring by the U.S. and other NATO countries around the question of neutron weapons manufacture, fails to indicate any serious intent on their part in favour of disarmament, are confirmed by the tergiversation of U.S. President James Carter's decision to defer the manufacture of the neutron weapon, a decision that may be described as an evasive manoeuvre aimed merely to delay a final solution of this extremely dangerous problem."

REACTION TO BREZHNEV'S SPEECH IN VLADIVOSTOK

World Press Hails Speech

LD081942Y Moscow TASS in English 1914 GMT 8 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 8, TASS--The speech of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, is the main topic on today's newspaper abroad. Summing up in detail and commenting on the speeches of the head of the Soviet state on the main problems that are in the centre of our life, the foreign press stresses that Leonid Brezhnev's speech is embued with concern for peace. Particularly important is the conclusion of the leader of the CPSU and the Soviet state that a turn to the relaxation of international tension has been decisive for the present-day state of affairs in the world, writes the Bulgarian RABOTNICHESKO DELO. The speech in Vladivostok showed again that Leonid Brezhnev dedicated his life to the struggle for consolidation of peace, writes the Czechoslovak RUDE PRAVO.

It is not accidental that Leonid Brezhnev delivered this important speech in Vladivostok, writes the Hungarian MAGYAR NEMZET. It is precisely this town that was the venue of the 1974 Soviet-American summit meeting which resulted in the arrangement on concluding between the USSR and the USA of a long-term agreement on strategic offensive arms limitation. Almost three and a half years have passed since then but the agreement has not yet been signed. Leonid Brezhnev exposed the reasons behind this and placed the responsibility for this state of affairs on the U.S. administration.

JUVENTID REBELDE and other Cuban newspapers point out that in his speech in Vladivostok Leonid Brezhnev called on certain Western leaders to ponder in earnest on their responsibility to peoples for the destinies of the world, to show indeed the readiness to take specific steps to curb the arms race.

The Washington POST stresses that in Leonid Brezhnev's opinion, further delay and all kind of manoeuvers over the talks can only result in missing the very opportunity to conclude an agreement. The U.S. ruling circles must resolutely reject "recommendations" of advocates of the cold war and give an unamibuous answer to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives, placing an emphasis on achieving real progress in disarmament and mutually advantageous cooperation with the USSR, said Howard Persons, prominent American scholar, the dean of the Philosophy Department of the University of Bridgeport. The attempts of the U.S. ruling circles to impose new deadly armaments on the world, the artificial dragging out of the talks on strategic offensive arms limitation do nothing to promote detente, preserve and strengthen mutual cooperation, the scholar said.

The British MORNING STAR writes that Leonid Brezhnev rejected the attempts of the United States and other NATO countries to make the neutron bomb an object of bargaining, to connect this weapon with other, unrelated questions. The British GUARDIAN points out that Leonid Brezhnev's speech is a call to the United States to accept the clear-cut and specific Soviet proposal on mutual renunciation of production of neutron weapons.

The Soviet Union suggests to the United States mutual and unconditional renunciation of the neuton bomb, writes the French L'HUMANITE, but the U.S. Government is so far rejecting of creating such a bomb in the hope of getting from the Soviet Union concessions in an absolutely different shape. The main idea of Leonid Brezhnev's speech is concern for real disarmament and peace, writes the Parisian LE MATIN.

The British DAILY TELEGRAPH believes it is by no means fortuitous that Leonid Brezhnev selected Vladivostok to level sharp criticism at the delays in concluding a treaty with the U.S. It was in that city nearly three and a half years ago that the accords were reached on concluding a long-term Soviet-American strategic offensive arms limitation treaty. Today, on the eve of a visit to the USSR by U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, the Soviet leader voiced his displeasure that the accords reached in November 1974 at Vladivostok are not honoured by the American side. Another British paper, THE GUARDIAN, finds that it follows from Leonid Brezhnev's speech that all the responsibility for the problems that have arisen during the strategic offensive arms limitation talks falls on the USA.

Paul Warnke, the head of the American delegation at the SALT negotiations in Geneva, stated that the earliest conclusion of an agreement on this problem is in the interest of the peoples of both the USA and the USSR. Referring to the opponents of an agreement, Paul Warnke said in an interview given to a TASS correspondent that the criticism by some American officials of certain aspects of Soviet foreign policy must not affect the solution of the problem of establishing nuclear weapons control, and that an unfavourable political climate should not prevent the conclusion of mutually acceptable agreement on strategic arms limitation. The military industrial complex in the U.S. maintains that the neutron bomb can be used as a trump card in relations with the Soviet Union, as if war or peace, life or death, is nothing but a gamble, writes the American paper DAILY WORLD. Yet the USSR will not permit this offensive weapon, directed above all at destroying human life, to be turned into an object of bargaining and be linked to other irrelevant questions. Building up armaments just when there is a real opportunity for their reduction, the Pentagon and the military industrialists are perpetrating a monstrous crime against th peoples, says the paper of the American communists in conclusion.

The Moscow correspondent of the West German paper FRANKFURTER ALGEMEINE reports: "Leonid Brezhnev insists on the earliest conclusion of the SALT negotations. In doing so the Soviet leader stressed that only such a treaty is acceptable to the USSR that is based on the strict observance of the principle of equality and undiminished security of the sides." The Madrid paper PAIX stressed that in the speech, which all looked forward to, the Soviet leader confirmed the USSR's peaceable policy, called for curbing the arms race and preventing any threat of an outbreak of nuclear war. "The Soviet Union is warning the whole world of the need to halt the arms race and is voicing its readiness to do everything necessary in the interests of peace and peaceful coexistence," concluded the Lebanese paper AS-SAFIR, commenting on Leonid Brezhnev's speech. The Cypriot paper HARAVGI stresses that Leonid Brezhnev's Vladivostok speech confirmed once again that the Soviet Union threatens no one. The armed forces of the USSR, capable of repelling any threats to the security of the Soviet state, stand on guard of peace.

LEONID LUBMAN TREASON TRIAL CONCLUDES IN LENINGRAD

LD101058Y Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

["A Sentence on Traitor"--TASS headline]

[Text] Leningrad, April 10, TASS--Viktor Vladimirov, a TASS correspondent, reports: A trial of the criminal case of Leonid Lubman ended here, he was charged with committing a crime under point "A" of Article 64 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation--treason against the motherland in the form of giving assistance to a foreign state in the conduct of hostile activities against the USSR.

As it turned out at the trial, this 42-year-old resident of Leningrad established a contact with a foreign intelligence service in December 1976. Acting from anti-Soviet motives to the detriment of the state independence and military might of the USSR, Lubman prepared a number of documents for a foreign special service. In the documents he reported classified information, and expressed recommendations on increasing the subversive work activity against the USSR in the form of espionage, terror, sabotage and radio propaganda. This renegade in his espionage reports called for "destroying the Soviet Union by every possible means".

On Lubman's signal about the readiness of a regular batch of espionage information, a contact was urgently sent to the USSR. This time the role of the contact was played by Gabrielli, a citizen of Italy, an emissary of "NTS", who arrived in Leningrad under the pretence of studying at the International Course of the Russian Language at the Polytechnical Institute.

Lubman's espionage reports and other hostile documents were discovered and withdrawn from Gabrielli at Sheremetyevo Airport during the customs examination on August 11, 1977, when she was leaving the USSR.

During the investigation and the court proceedings, Lubman repeatedly made attempts to belittle his responsibility for the committed crime through false accusation of obviously innocent persons. Thus, he tried to present as his accomplices the residents of Leningrad, Kogan, and Sennova who went abroad in 1977 for permanent residence. By using an irrefutable evidence the court proved the utter groundlessness and falsity of the assertions and qualified them as an aggravating circumstance.

The trial of the traitor revealed a close connection between Lubman's anti-Soviet convictions and his practical espionage activities. This is the logical end of the renegade who started with slander on his motherland and ended with direct treason.

BREZHNEV, KOSYGIN ATTEND RSFSR SUPREME SOVIET SESSION

LD100932Y Moscow TASS in English 0726 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 10, TASS--The Supreme Soviet (parliament) of the Russian Federation went into an extraordinary session in the Kremlin today. The deputies are to consider a new constitution of this biggest Soviet republic. The draft constitution has been elaborated in accordance with the new fundamental law of the USSR adopted on October 7, last year, and with regard for the republic's peculiarities.

The session is being attended by deputies Leonid Brezhnev, Aleksey Kosygin, and by other leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet Government. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0730 GMT on 10 April reports the Supreme Soviet deputies "welcomed with long and stormy applause Comrades Brezhnev, Gromyko, Kosygin, Kulakov, Mazurov, Romanov, Suslov, Ustinov, Kuznetsov, Ponomarev, Solomentsev, Chernenko, Kapitonov, Dolgikh, Zimyanin and Ryabov."]

The draft constitution of the Russian Federation has been brought up for nationwide discussion and published in a total impression of 40 million copies. It has been fully approved during the discussion. Three hundred thousand meetings took place, with over 25 million citizens participating. About ten thousand proposals, additions and alterations, many of which have a direct bearing on the contents of the draft constitution, have come in.

The draft was submitted to the extraordinary session's consideration by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation.

The Russian Federation, which unites over a hundred nationalities has a population of 136.9 million. The federation's economic potential can be judged by these figures: The republic generates 62 per cent of the entire amount of Soviet electric power, manufactures 86 per cent of motor vehicles, 86 per cent of oil, and 55 per cent of coal, more than a half of all bread of the USSR is grown on the fields of the federation.

Solomentsev Presents Report

LD1000103Y Moscow TASS in English 0843 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 10, TASS--"The draft new constitution of the Russian Federation is based on a firm ideological, theoretical and legal foundation. The constitution commission was guided in its work by the Leninist principles, by the materials of party congresses, theoretical conclusions and provisions contained in the works of general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev."

This statement was made by Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation Mikhail Solomentsev. He submitted a report on the draft new constitution to the extraordinary session of the federation's Supreme Soviet.

The draft constitution records the principled features of a developed socialist society that have been reflected in the 1977 fundamental law of the USSR and that are of common significance for all union republics.

The historic peculiarties of the republic were also reflected.

Mikhail Solomentsev pointed out that the draft constitution reflects the main features of the economy of developed socialism. Historic achievements in the country's economic development are clearly seen on the example of the Russian Federation. The federation's industry now turns out in a fortnight the same output as it did in the year 1937. The real per capita incomes rose more than sixfold over forty years.

"A broad range of rights and freedoms, the reality of their contents and reliable guarantees consolidated by Soviet constitutions show convincingly that socialism ensures real freedom of the personality which does not and cannot exist in the world of class inequality and oppression," Mikhail Solomentsev said. In the draft new constitution "the contents of socio-economic rights, specifically the right to work, to rest, to health protection, to material maintenance have been widened and enriched by possibilities of developed socialism." The norms of the USSR Constitution and the draft constitution of the Russian Federation not only meet fully the provisions of the international convenants on human rights, but go much further in many respects. For instance, the fundamental human right, the right to work, has been ensured in the USSR for almost half a century by full employment of the able-bodied population, he said. Mikhail Solomentsev said that the document meets "the requirements of the present stage of the republic's constitutional development and is in keeping with the people's will."

Session Praises Brezhnev Tour

LD1010058Y Moscow TASS in English 1025 GMT 10 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, April 10, TASS--The deputies at the session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation that opened today in the Kremlin stress that the Leninist foreign policy course of the CPSU and the Soviet Government aimed at relaxation of international tension meets with understanding and support of all peace forces.

The deputies are discussing the draft new constitution of the Russian Federation, the biggest union republic. The discussion of the draft coincided with such an important event in the life of the party and the country as the tour of a number of the federation's eastern areas by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev. For almost a fortnight the Soviet people followed with keen interest the reports on his meetings with people of Siberia and the Far East, with servicemen of the Soviet Army and Navy.

"These meetings were also in the spotlight of attention of the public abroad. They showed clearly to the whole world how consistently and purposefully our party and state are working toward improvement of the world climate, are ensuring peaceful work of the Soviet people," Mikhail Solomentsev, the chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Russian Federation, said at the session.

The warm reception given to the leader of the Soviet people everywhere reflects the feelings of sincere and profound respect, love and trust that the Soviet people have for the CPSU, its Central Committee and Leonid Brezhnev personally, Mikhail Solomentsev said.

"Leonid Brezhnev's conversations with party functionaries and economic executives, with the working people, were a profound and thorough talk about the prospects and tasks of the country's economic development and further raising of the standards of life of the Soviet people."

The deputies express cordial gratitude to Leonid Brezhnev for his care for further flourishing of the motherland, for ensuring durable peace on earth.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0900 GMT on 10 April reports that "the RSFSR Supreme Soviet session elected an editorial commission to prepare the final text of the RSFSR Constitution. The commission comprises 111 deputies. Its chairman is Comrade Solomentsev. Then discussion of the draft new constitution of the Russian Federation began."]

KAZAKH STATE COMMITTEE BECOMES FORESTRY MINISTRY

LD070635Y Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 78 p 1 LD

[Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium decree: "On Transforming the Kazakh Council of Ministers State Committee for Forestry Into the Kazakh Ministry of Forestry"]

[Text] Government House, Alma-Ata, 29 March 1978--The Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium decrees that the Kazakh Council of Ministers State Committee for Forestry be transformed into the Kazakh Ministry of Forestry.

[Signed] S. Nizyabekov, chairman of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium; N. Abayeva, secretary of the Kazakh Supreme Soviet Presidium.

BRIEFS

KIEV OFFICIAL TO TRANSFER--The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium has relieved Comrade Petr Timofyevich Tronko of the duties of Ukrainian Council of Ministers deputy chairman in connection with his transfer to another job. [Text] [Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Ukrainian 4 Apr 78 p 3 AU]

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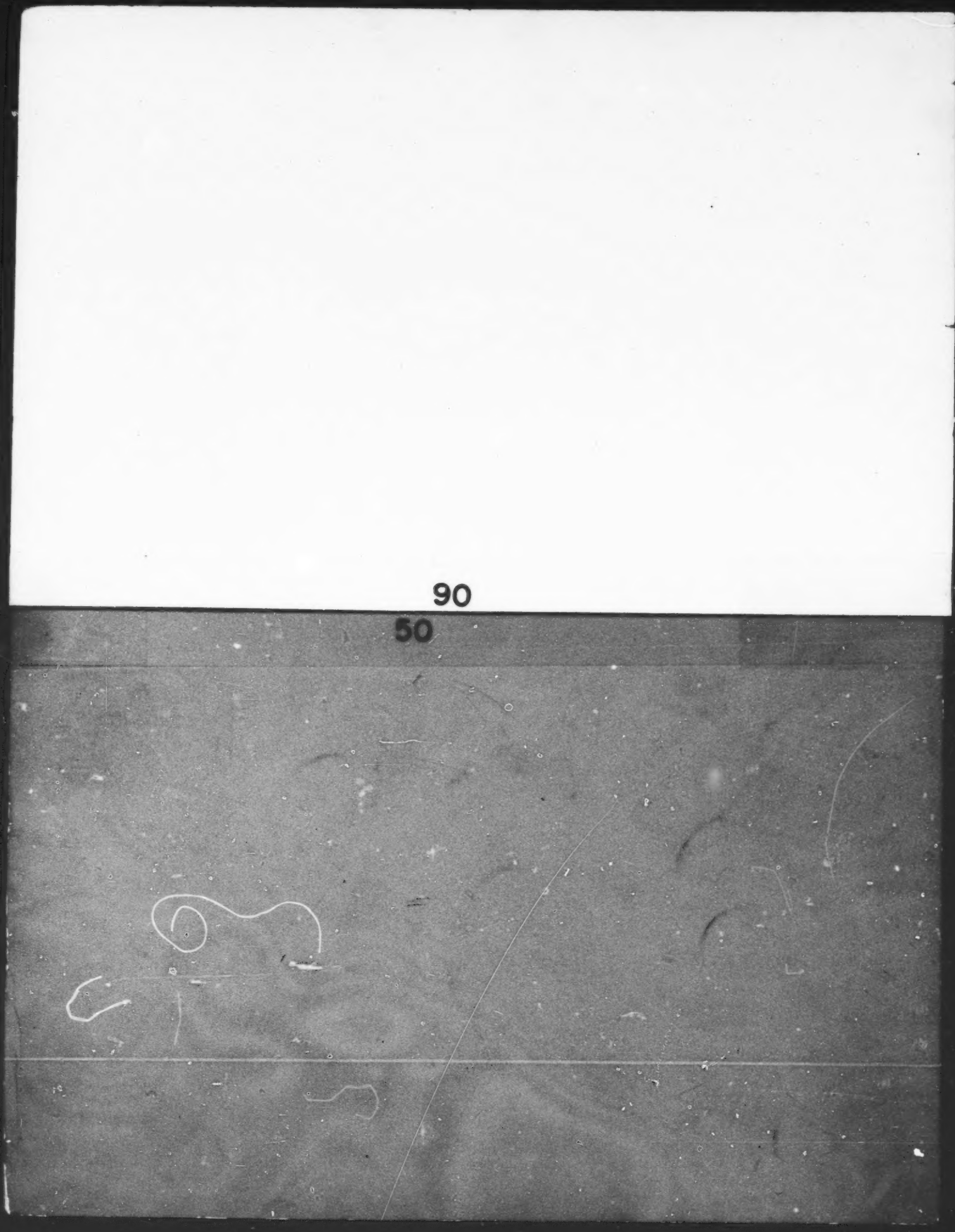
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